



Siegel Institute for Leadership,  
Ethics and Character

# The Voice of Ethical Leadership

The Newsletter of the Siegel Institute for Leadership,  
Ethics, and Character

Edited by: Alex Almodóvar and Christine Mbaba

Winter 2017



## Interview with IREX Fellow: Honest Kansime

### What were some expectations you had prior to coming to America?

A few expectations I had prior to coming to America were having a stress free life, making new friends, building networks and partners for my organization and acquiring lots of knowledge. Also, I wanted to do a lot of shopping and improve my spoken English!

### What were some goals you wanted to achieve during your stay at the Siegel Institute?

Some goals I wanted to achieve while working with the Siegel Institute were acquiring knowledge and improving my overall skills including how to write a project proposal, find donors, improve my computer skills, and establish lifelong relationships with my supervisor and community mentor as well as establishing a lifelong relationship with the Siegel Institute.

### Inside This Issue:

IREX Fellow	1
PWC Pre-Conference Workshop	2
Recent Publications	2
Alicia Whittle Rooks: Graduation Plans	2
New SALT Student: Amelia Queen	3
New GRA: Christine Mbaba	3
ILEC Summer and Fall 2017 Course Schedule	3
Advisory Board Member Highlight: Dr. Boone Benton	4

### Can you briefly explain some takeaways you have now from staying in America?

During my stay in America, I have new ideas for a project called Young Innovators Awards, which will honor students for their creative innovations, and I developed new topics for my organization’s curriculum. I had the opportunity to tour Atlanta and saw sea lions at the Georgia Aquarium, took a tour of the CNN headquarters, the World of Coke Museum, the Carter Center, the Human Rights Center, and the Fernbank Museum. I also witnessed a high-level of exposure to American culture. I was lucky to be in America in a period that the country had presidential elections. I learned about the electoral system. It was a strange thing for me to know that in America, a candidate with the majority of votes does not necessarily win the election. In Uganda we don’t use the Electoral College system. We have adult suffrage and everyone’s vote counts. Those are my biggest takeaways!

### Among the places you visited while staying in America, which place had the most influence on you?

The Siegel Institute. Before I came to Siegel, whenever I saw the word ethics, my mind quickly ran to corruption and mini-skirts since these are the issues I see in Uganda being addressed by the Ministry of Ethics. I did not know that ethics was so complex until I started attending Dr. Johnston’s and Crystal’s lectures in ethics. I want to start research on politics and ethics when I get back to Uganda.

### What is one thing that you will miss once you leave America?

The people! I’ll miss my new friends; I’ll miss my roommates; and I’ll miss the team at the Siegel Institute and all the other people that Dr. Linda Johnston introduced me to.

## 2016-2017 PWC Pre-Conference Workshops

February 16, 2017– S.A.F.E (Self-Defense Awareness and Familiarization Exchange) by KSU Police.

\*All workshops are \$25 and include dinner. They will be held from 5:30-7:30p.m. in the Town Point Building, Room 2220.

\*Register at [siegelinstitute.kennesaw.edu!](http://siegelinstitute.kennesaw.edu!)

## Recent Publications

Johnston, L. M. “Constructivist Theories of Leadership,” Global Encyclopedia of Public Administration and Public Policy, Springer International Publishing Switzerland, 2016

Book Review:

British Southern Cameroons: Nationalism & Conflict in Postcolonial Africa, edited by Fonkem Achankeng, Victoria, BC, Canada, FriesenPress, 2014, 241 pages. International Journal of World Peace, Vol. XXXIII, No. 3, September, 2016.

## Alicia Whittle Rooks

Alicia Whittle Rooks has had quite a year while working as a graduate research assistant at the Siegel Institute. She joined our staff last August when she started her Master’s program in Integrated Global Communication. During her time at the Siegel Institute, she has played an integral part in our success. Alicia has helped assist with our ethical workshops, teach one of our graduate classes, raise funds for the Phenomenal Women’s Conference, participate in the on-campus Benefits Fairs and Career Fairs, and was a part of the first Siegel Institute Ethical Research Scholars program. We have enjoyed her enthusiasm and joyous personality over the past year and her ability to be flexible in her role. We have seen Alicia grow as a young professional and sharpen her skills as a researcher, writer, communicator, and scholar. Alicia graduated from her program December 13th and hopes to land a job where she can continue prospering and use her skills and abilities to serve others in her new role. She would like to thank the Siegel Institute for giving her this amazing opportunity to continue her education and allowing her to serve on its staff as a graduate research assistant for the past year.



## SALT Student: Amelia Queen

I am a senior, and my intended graduation is this May with a Bachelor of Science degree in Communication. I plan to use this degree to help me pursue my Juris Doctorate in Media Law. At the Siegel Institute I am a student assistant helping with the Phenomenal Women's Conference (PWC) that will take place on March 17th. I became a student assistant at the Siegel Institute through the Student Assistance for Leadership in Teaching (SALT) program at Kennesaw State University. The SALT program helps facilitate academic and professional development of students. The program allows students to use the skills that they possess to assist a faculty member or department with special projects. I have assisted with hosting a variety of conferences and events through KSU and I am looking forward to helping with the PWC as my final project at the university!



## Welcome our new GRA: Christine Mbaba

Christine received her Bachelor of Arts in Communications and Spanish from Mercer University with a minor in Business Administration. She is currently pursuing a Master's of Public Administration and a Master's of Business Administration at Kennesaw State University. She is a member of Pi Alpha Alpha, the national honor society for public administration and public affairs.

Upon graduating from Kennesaw State University, she plans to pursue a career in diplomacy/Foreign Service with a concentration in conflict management and resolution with the United Nations. Christine enjoys traveling, reading, cooking, and learning new languages. She loves to meet new people and experience different cultures.



### Summer 2017 Course Schedule:

ILEC 8800 - Foundations of Ethics\* (3)  
 ILEC 8850 - Ethical Leadership in a Global Context\* (3)  
 ILEC 8940 - Directed Study in Leadership and Ethics (3-6)

### Fall 2017 Course Schedule:

ILEC 8810 - Foundations of Leadership\* (3)  
 ILEC 8910 - Technology and Ethics\* (3)  
 ILEC 8920 - Sports and Ethics (3)  
 ILEC 8950 - Human Rights: The Roles of Law and Ethics\* (3)  
 ILEC 8940 - Directed Study in Leadership and Ethics (3-6)

**\*Online Course**



# Advisory Board

## Member Highlight:

### Dr. Boone Benton



Siegel Institute for Leadership,  
Ethics and Character

**Phone:** 470-578-2000

**Fax:** 470-578-9178

**Mailing Address:**

1000 Chastain Road

MD #9114

Kennesaw, GA 30144

**Physical Address:**

3391 Town Point Drive

Suite 4700

Kennesaw, GA 30144

**1. Please share a little bit about your background and how you got to the position you are currently in?**

I've been in the counseling psychology field for over 28 years, working in places like private practice, foster care and adoption, group homes, and in-home treatment. I ventured into school counseling ten years ago and finally found my niche' and passion - teaching teenagers how to manage conflict, advocate for social justice, and hone their leadership skills. We aim to enhance their emotional intelligence in our peer leadership program.

**2. What are your biggest challenges and rewards working as a high school counselor?**

My biggest challenge is the volume of work which needs completion will never match the hours available on the job. Part of my growth in the job as a school counselor has been prioritizing what needs intervention first, and who or what can wait until tomorrow. My rewards come when a student is inspired to reach toward a high goal (e.g. more competitive college) and sharing their joy when they're accepted. There have also been times when some of my peer leaders were so moved by working with a special population in the community, they decided to major in Special Education. I'm privileged to be a small part of some student's emotional, social, career or educational development.

**3. How have you been able to apply your two Master's degrees and Ph.D towards building an ethical and civil culture in your school and in your career?**

My first five years in Gwinnett County was in a Title 1 school, which means our students on Free or Reduced Lunch met the federal criteria. I believe I've made a difference in the lives of marginalized students to empower them to self-advocate and use their voice against injustice. In one year, our peer leaders facilitated over 70 peer mediations in the school year!! Enhancing an adolescent's Emotional Intelligence pays dividends the rest of their adult life.

**4. Which particular setting in the counseling psychology field do you like the most, and why?**

I think the best parallel for this answer is Jesus and the 12 disciples. Knowing Christ could not physically be everywhere at once, His followers were already empowered to carry on Kingdom work in their own communities, homes, neighborhoods, etc. I'm thrilled to work with students who endeavor to make a real, substantial difference in their world, and I can play a part in their lives to teach, encourage, and charge them to carry on their personal mission of leadership, ethical behavior, and character development to their world.

**5. What do you believe is your key to success?**

Faith in a God much bigger, more patient, and wiser than me, along with a loving, supportive wife and children. I wouldn't be the man I am today without family encouragement.

[siegelinstitute.kennesaw.edu](http://siegelinstitute.kennesaw.edu)