

## History

### **Dr. Flossie McClain Dedmond**

Dr. Flossie McClain Dedmond ("Floss" to her close friends) was the seventh child of Mr. and Mrs. John W. McClain. In the home, filial piety, dedication to responsibility and respect for each other, as well as for persons outside the family circle were daily lessons that were taught to her and her siblings, by both parents.

Dr. Dedmond received a BA degree in English from Fisk University; MA degree in Speech Arts from Columbia University, and pursued post-graduate studies in English and in Speech at Ohio State University and at the Catholic University of America, respectively. She held the degree of Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters from Allen University.

At Coppin State University, she was a classroom teacher, a collaborator of Project Mission, acting chairman of the English Department, Director of the Evening University and of the Summer School, and finally, Dean of the Division of Arts and Sciences.

### **Dr. Guilbert A. Daley**

Dr. Guilbert A. Daley, Professor Emeritus of Speech and Theatre, retired from Coppin in 1996 after more than 30 years of service to the university. Dr. Daley joined the Coppin State University Faculty in 1962, as an Assistant Professor of English and Speech and as Director of Theater.

Around 1968, Coppin State Teachers' University began its transition into a four-year liberal arts institution; thus, new majors were developed. When the English major was instituted, Daley developed new courses in literature, speech and drama, including Shakespeare and Advanced English Grammar. He was a Shakespearian scholar. In 1973, he became chairman of the newly established Speech-Theater Department, and the speech and drama courses and productions, originally offered through the English department, were moved into his area. Today, students can pursue the Speech-Theater concentration as a minor and an Urban Theater Management major.

Guilbert A. Daley served Coppin State University for thirty-three years. Throughout his entire career, he had a reciprocal learning relationship with his students. He believed that every good teacher can and does learn something from his students. He always placed his students first. Their growth in learning and their ability to think more profoundly and progressively were his chief concern. He set and modeled extremely high standards for his students and never allowed them to compromise for mediocrity. In 1996 he retired and as a tribute, he was requested to deliver the Commencement Address. Two years later, in 1998, Dr. Daley was bestowed another great honor.

He was conferred Professor Emeritus for his outstanding service and contribution to Coppin State University, its faculty, and its students. Dr. Daley was the first Faculty member at Coppin to be bestowed this status. Dr. Guilbert Alfred Daley passed away in 1999.