

Candidate for Alumna Trustee 2008–2011

Alumnae Association of Mills College

LYNETTE WILLIAMS WILLIAMSON '72, MA '74

Current residence: Suisun City, California

Mills major: English

Additional education: MA, English, Mills College, 1974; secondary teaching credential, major English, minors government & sociology, Mills College, 1974; chartered property casualty underwriter (CPCU), associate degree in management (AIM), American Institute for CPCU (AICPCU); diploma in risk and insurance, College of Insurance, Los Angeles campus.

Student activities: Black Students' Union; president of Olney Hall senior year; English Department student representative; assistant head resident of Reinhardt Hall, 1972–1974; teaching assistant; Upward Bound program assistant; dormitory supervisor; girls' basketball coach; and English tutor.

Employment: Over 30 years in property/casualty insurance, including underwriting and internal audit. Current position: director of marketing administration, CSE Insurance Group, Walnut Creek, California, responsible for the marketing division budget, corporate communications, public web site, event planning and leadership on marketing- involved projects.

Volunteer experience: Calvary Chapel, Solano, Sunday school and Vacation Bible School teacher, 1993–2000 (substitute teacher currently); greeter.

AAMC involvement: *Quarterly* Editorial Board, early 1990s through June 2007; class secretary, 1992–1997; Board of Governors, 2003–June 2007.

How Mills affected my life: Mills taught me to think critically and write well. Equally as important, because of my Mills experience, I am confident interacting with anyone. Mills reinforced my upbringing that everyone deserves to be treated with respect. In a world that in some ways still says that black people are second-class citizens, Mills professors, College executives, and brilliant students from all over the world treated me with dignity and respect. Being a Mills College graduate has opened many doors, but more importantly, it has given me the courage to walk through them.

Future of the Alumnae Association and its relationship to the College: While this transition period is challenging and sometimes difficult because both the College and AAMC are still assessing and adjusting to a completely new set of rules, I believe that the partnership will be successful. A very simple view of the two organizations is that the College represents the head or the brains, while the AAMC represents the heart; neither can thrive without the other.

The future of Mills College: I expect Mills to continue to offer and maintain programs that foster and educate our future leaders, such as my niece, Amber Williams '10, majoring in political, legal, & economic analysis (PLEA).