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MEDIA CONTACT:  Daphne Thomas, PR & Marketing Director  (901) 435-1539
(901) 220-3098

President Johnnie B. Watson Announces New Vice President; Taps 24-year Veteran

MEMPHIS, TN (November 9, 2010)  LeMoyne-Owen College President Johnnie B. Watson announced earlier today that, effective Jan. 1, 2013, Dr. Cheryl Golden will serve as the college’s new Vice President for Academic Affairs and Chief Academic Officer.

Dr. Golden is a committed and passionate faculty member who has taught psychology and statistics at the college for the past 24 years and has served as the Chair of the Division of Social and Behavioral Sciences since 2005.  “Dr. Golden brings extensive administrative experience as chair and also has performed well in her role as the president of the college’s faculty organization,” President Watson said.

Dr. Golden was selected after an exhaustive national search.  According to President Watson, her extensive outreach and community partnerships were a major factor in his decision.  “She works exceptionally well with community organizations and is well-known as a progressive educator who is very adept at forming coalitions that provide outstanding opportunities for our students to gain valuable, real world experience.”

As a division chair, Dr. Golden has been the catalyst for the development of a number of initiatives designed to promote leadership and scholarship in the student body.  She has led research partnerships with the Department of Defense, Meharry Medical College, Lane College, Fisk University, Knoxville College and the University of Tennessee Health Sciences.  She also directs LeMoyne-Owen College’s award-winning wellness efforts and public health curriculum, the only undergraduate public health curriculum in Tennessee and one of less than 30 such programs nationwide.  Recognized for her extensive experience in health education, Governor Phil Bredesen appointed her to the Governor’s Council on Physical Fitness and Health in 2009.

Dr. Golden is looking forward to her new role and has a vision of how the college’s academic activities will continue to move forward.  “I hope to further strengthen the student body through an expanded curriculum, increased visibility, and new community partnerships that provide our students an opportunity to gain experiences that will complement classroom instruction,” she said.

“It’s an exciting time for the college and I am privileged to work in a place I love,” Dr. Golden added.  She replaces Dr. Barbara Frankle who is retiring after 41 years of service with the college.

Dr. Golden holds doctoral and master’s degrees in Clinical and General Psychology, respectively, from the University of Georgia, and a bachelor’s degree in Psychology from Rhodes College (formerly, Southwestern At Memphis) where she graduated with honors.

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