

# NEWS RELEASE

1801 Martin Luther King Drive  
San Antonio, TX 78203-2098  
[www.accd.edu/spc](http://www.accd.edu/spc)

(210) 531-3260 voice  
(210) 531-4820 fax



**ST. PHILIP'S COLLEGE**  
One of the Alamo Community Colleges  
*"A Point of Pride in the Community"*

Historically Black College & Hispanic Serving Institution

CONTACT FOR SPC: John Dendy, Public Information Officer  
(210) 531-3259  
Email: [jdendy@mail.accd.edu](mailto:jdendy@mail.accd.edu)

## **ST. PHILIP'S COLLEGE PRESIDENT IN HISTORIC SPEECH TO EPISCOPAL DIOCESE MEMBERS**

*Dr. Adena Williams Loston first African-American female to address the Diocese at its Council meeting*

**SAN ANTONIO** --- St. Philip's College President Dr. Adena Williams Loston delivered a speech for the Episcopal Diocese of West Texas at Municipal Auditorium in San Antonio during their 104th Council Meeting on behalf of St. Philip's College and St. Philip's Episcopal Church.

Her presentation included a historical overview of St. Philip's College explaining how the College was founded by the St. Philip's Episcopal Church in San Antonio on March 1, 1898 and that St. Philip's College celebrated its 110th anniversary on March 1, 2008.

Dr. Loston addressed the Diocese members at the invitation of the late Rev. Richard Thayer, Interim Rector of St. Philip's Episcopal Church.

"The people in the Diocese have been told about the relationships between St. Philip's Episcopal Church and St. Philip's College---two or three times---but the legacy is not known," Rev. Thayer said during a planning session in anticipation of the 104th Council Meeting. "They need to know this. People need to know the stories that inspire, because there are precious few, and I want people to know who Mrs. (Artemisia) Bowden was," the Reverend said. Artemisia Bowden was the educator known as "The Savior of St. Philip's" for her extensive work trying to raise money for the college and keep its doors open and affordable to needy students. She led the institution for 52 years.

After the presentation, Bishop Gary Lillibridge announced that the Diocese was establishing another scholarship fund to further support student success at St. Philip's College. More than 1,000 clergy and laypersons attended the conference. Dr. Loston was the first African-American female to address the Diocese at its Council meeting.

**CAPTION (Images by Patrick Evans):** St. Philip's College President Dr. Adena Williams Loston delivered a speech and historical overview of St. Philip's College for the Episcopal Diocese of West Texas at Municipal Auditorium in San Antonio during their 104th Council Meeting. Dr. Loston spoke to 1,000 people on the 110-year-old relationship between St. Philip's College and St. Philip's Episcopal Church. She is the first African-American female to address the Diocese at its Council meeting. After the presentation, Bishop Gary Lillibridge announced that the Diocese was establishing another scholarship fund to further support student success at St. Philip's College.





-SPC-

**About St. Philip's:** St. Philip's College was founded in 1898 by Bishop James Steptoe Johnston of St. Philip's Episcopal Church of the West Texas Diocese. Today, St. Philip's is a multi-campus institution of the Alamo Community Colleges and serves a semester enrollment of nearly 10,000 credit and more than 5,000 continuing education students. St. Philip's is a Historically Black College and Hispanic Serving Institution and is the only college in the nation that carries this dual designation. As "*A Point of Pride in the Community*," St. Philip's is among the oldest and most diverse community colleges in the United States.