

New BSU executive board elected

DINAH M. REESE
Spectrum Staff Writer

There has been a changing of the guard in the Black Student Union leadership.

The results of the Black Student Union election for next year's executive board members were released last Friday.

The winners of the executive board seats are sophomore Lepora Flournory as President, junior Arnold Wadley (current president) as Vice President, sophomore Roderigo Honeywell as Treasurer, junior Garrett Willis as

Activities Coordinator, and freshman Cassandra Francique as Secretary.

At a BSU meeting last Wednesday, the candidates delivered very impressive campaign speeches.

Wadley quoted from the citizen's pledge of Athens, Greece in his speech. He said what he felt was his (as well as the rest of the new executives') duty as Vice President "...to seek ...to transmit...the [organization] better if not greater than what was transmitted to us..."

Flournory commented that her main goal for next year is to

increase "unity among organizations," specifically the Caribbean Student Association, PODER, Asian American Student Union, Native American People's Alliance, and the Haitian and African Student Association.

Other members of the executive board echoed concerns about student unity. Francique said she wants "African students on this campus to be more aware of their culture and heritage...to have more unity."

Inside... see profile of BSU's new president. **page 3**

Flournory named BSU President

First female president since 1986

RENWICK P. FEAGIN
Spectrum Staff Writer

Not since 1986, when Cassandra Chase was in office, has there been a female President of Black Student Union. This trend has changed with the newly elected Lepora Flournory.

When asked how she feels about her new position, Flournory replied, "I feel relatively the same. I have always been an active participant in the Black Student Union. This position simply gives me a greater opportunity to help stimulate the empowerment of black students here at UB."

As BSU Activities Coordinator, Lepora Flournory helped co-ordinate the High School Scholarship Program and Campfire Mentor Day.

Flournory explained, "The idea is to serve as a vehicle for the community children, to give them a positive atmosphere and positive role models for the influence of positive goals."

She also worked on Project Pride and guest lectures like Amiri Baraka, Sister Souljah and Lenora Fulani.

Prosperous future

Regarding her new position, Flournory said, "During my freshman year in 1991, I was very interested in introducing new ideas to the organization. I would also like to add structural improvements which affects the overall production of the organization."

When Flournory was asked to comment on the fact that she will be "First Lady of BSU," Flournory replied, "Yes, the active male members of the Black Student Union are very egalitarian. I have only received total encouragement and support from them."

Robert Roache, BSU Executive Board Chairman, said, "BSU will have probably the best year it has had in a long time," and added, "Lepora has been the head of a lot of activities that we've had in the past year and I think the change would be good for BSU."

BSU as role model

"I can see the Black Student Union moving towards a greater political level, as well as being an even louder voice on campus," Flournory said.

When asked what she planned to accomplish as

president, she replied, "I plan to accomplish a lot of things. To name a few, I would like to expand the Scholarship Program that I started into a 'Big Sister-Little Sister' program with Kensington High School. Kensington is known as having the worst reputation out of all the Buffalo high schools. I feel that the Black Student Union can, in this situation, serve as role models and encourage more students to attend college."

Flournory said she hopes to start an Annual African-Core Alliance Conference.

"This Conference will consist of African Organizations all over the region," she explained. "Not



Brad Edwards/ The Spectrum

Lepora Flournory

"BSU will have probably the best year it has had in a long time. Lepora has been the head of a lot of activities that we've had in the past year and I think the change would be good for BSU."

Robert Roache
BSU Executive Board Chairman

only will it encourage unity nationally, but also locally."

"Above all of my goals, I would like to increase the support of the student body," Flournory said. "Without them nothing could be accomplished."

BSU members' reactions

Ramses Duvivier, present vice president of BSU, said, "Lepora has two years experience as an active member of the Executive Board of BSU. Flournory has all the qualifications and the skills necessary to help BSU prosper in the future."

He added, "I have worked along side of her and I've seen her experience grow. I believe that her motivation is an asset to our organization."

Asiyah Grant said, "I feel that it's about damn time. Finally, a woman president that will do all that the Black Student Union should be doing," and added, "You go girl!"

Miari Roberts, assistant activities coordinator, said, "I feel that Lepora Flournory is a very strong black woman with excellent workable ideas for both the black community and BSU."

Roberts also said, "Over the next year, I know that she will propel that club to a higher level."

BSU member Keasha Broderick said he believes the BSU is heading in a positive direction. He said, "Our newly elected President is a strong black woman who goes out her way to keep her promises."