



Johnny L. Houston, PhD, Professor Emeritus, Elizabeth City State University-ECSU (UNC-SYSTEM)

Johnny L. Houston is Professor Emeritus at ECSU (1984-2010) where he served as Vice Chancellor-Academic Affairs and Senior Research Professor. He is Exec. Secretary Emeritus of the National Association of Mathematicians (NAM) (1975-2000) and served on NAM's Board of Directors for 50 years between (1969-2024). Houston earned three degrees in mathematics: BA, Morehouse Coll (1964); MS, Clark Atlanta U./Atlanta U. (1966); and a PhD, Purdue U. (1974); {dissertation title: "*On the Theory of Fitting Classes in Certain Locally Finite Groups,*" Eugene Schenkman, Advisor}. Houston did additional study: U. of GA (Sum. 1969) and L'Universite de Strasbourg (France), 1966-67. Houston received at least \$12 million dollars in grants for support of scholarly activities; and has produced over 25 publications, including (10+ mathscinet), 5 STEM textbooks (in French & English) for Senegal (Africa). Houston has presented scores of scholarly Invited Talks, while traveling globally: 6 continents, over 70 different countries (25 in Africa), and in all 50 states (USA). He taught/guided/mentored/encouraged over one thousand students; supervised over 40 undergraduates REUs students and served as advisor for over 20 MS theses. In addition to ECSU, he was on the faculty at Ft. Valley St. U-Callaway Prof. CS (1981-84), CAU/Atlanta U-Math Chair (1975-81, Savannah St. U (1974-75), and Stillman Coll (1967-69). Many of his students did further studies, some earning a PhD degree. He established/administered national/international programs for ECSU/NAM: the

Computational Sc.-Scientific Visualization (CSSV) Ctr, the Global Leadership Academy GLA), and ECSU/SENEGAL/USAID TLM-Program, the latter wrote/published/delivered over 5 million textbooks for public schools in Senegal (Africa). He was a V. Scientist at NASA Langley Research Ctr., Argonne and Lawrence Livermore Nat'l Labs, and the Nat'l Ctr. for Atmospheric Research. His Research interests include: topology/com. Algebra/Computational Sc/History of Mathematics (AA). He Chairs NAM's Archives Committee (HAC). He is a Life member of AMS, SIAM, NAM, and MAA (Bd of Gov, 1992-95), and has been an active member of AWM, ACM, IEEE, ADMI (VP, 1990-94), MSRI (HR-Com,1993-98), NC Supercomputer Ctr. (Adv. Com, 1994-2003), Purdue U Mathematical Sciences (Adv. Com. 1999-2002), NSF, NIH, and others. Houston is an active life member of the National Alumni Associations of Purdue U., Clark Atlanta U., Morehouse and ECSU. His civic and ecumenical activities include CSMBC, EC-RCCDC, Bd Ch; EC-Airport Auth. Bd Ch; Soc Ser-Bd Ch. Houston's honors-awards-recognitions include a White House State Dinner Guest (Sept 2008), a Math-Science History-Maker (2013), and a Mathematically Gifted and Black Honoree (2018). Two annual Lectures are established in his Name: the ECSU Johnny L. Houston STEM Lecture (2016) and Purdue U. Johnny L. Houston Mathematics Lecture (2023), Houston was 1st speaker for each. In 2024 ECSU named a STEM Lecture-Classroom in his Honor. Houston received NAM's Lifetime Achievement Award (1999), NAM's Co-Founder Award (2019) and NAM's Legacy Award (2024), UNC Bd of Governor's Award for Teaching Excellence (1996), a NC Governor's Award (1998), ECSU Chancellor Award (2004), and gave the Prof. C. B. Dansby Lecture/unveiled Dansby's Exhibit (2010). Received the Purdue Black Cultural Center (BCC) Pioneer Award, 2009 (he was 1st Dir. of the BCC, 1972-73). He was NAM's consultant/a participant in the documentary: **Journeys of Black Mathematicians JBM (jbmfilm.com), 2024-25**. He married (1969) Virginia Lawrence, a Distinguished Educator from Macon, GA. They have 2 daughters: Mave T. Houston, PhD-(Comp Sc) and Kaiulani M. Houston, PhD (Bio-Chem), MD. He was born (1941) in Sandersville, GA/son of Mrs. Catherine Houston Vinson/1960 H S grad, Ballard-Hudson (Macon, GA).