



REMEMBERING THE LIFE OF

Jonathan England

Dear AASD Friends and Alumni,

It is with a very heavy heart that we share the news of beloved teacher Jonathan England's sudden passing on the morning of Monday, June 1, 2020. He has served the Department of African American Studies with grace and passion for over 20 years. He began as a double undergraduate major in AASD and GVPT. He served with distinction as the Director of Undergraduate Studies, advocating for our students, and managing our academic programs in the Department.

Jonathan was a loving and devoted husband to his wife, Adrienne; a doting father to daughter, Ryann; and three sons, Jamison, Austin, and Carson. Many of you have seen his kids who have been special guests in his classes. With his children following along, he often walked the campus, ultimately making their way to Maryland Dairy for a Terp ice cream treat. Jonathan had a caring and generous spirit that permeated his interactions with others.

In addition to being a loving father, he was a kind and dedicated teacher. Jonathan challenged students to see more clearly how the dynamics of race, class and power are used to lift up and privilege some, and denigrate and oppress others. Jon had a charismatic and engaging personality, a witty (and sometimes corny) sense of humor. He loved his DC go-go music especially Chuck Brown, sports, African American Studies, race and politics, and of course announcing his "Bama of the day/week", to name a few.

Jon was passionate about social justice, teaching, and mentorship. He coached football and mentored hundreds of young men at Atholton High School and Bowie State University to help them develop into better athletes, students, leaders, and citizens. The current social climate surrounding police violence and systemic oppression of people of color is something that Jon addressed with vigor and determination through his teaching and workshops. Our AASD-BSOS-UMD community has lost a great professor, mentor, leader, advocate, ally, friend, surrogate father, and brother.

Please keep his family and the African American Studies Department in your thoughts and prayers as we remember and focus and continue Jonathan's legacy of teaching and leadership. As more information becomes available, we will share them concerning his family's wishes for honoring Jon's memory.

SHARON ANDERSON, OSCAR BARBARIN, CARYN BELL, ROBERT CHOFLET, MARCI DELOATCH,
ANGEL DUNBAR, RICCO HALL, CECILY HARDAWAY, SHARON HARLEY, SHARON HODGSON,
RENINA JARMON, GEORGE KINTIBA, SANGEETHA MADHAVAN, JASON NICHOLS,
JOSEPH RICHARDSON, MIKE WAGNER, SHANE WALSH, MARSHAL WASHINGTON