

## Alumni Author Opens First-Year Experience Program

### Saint Augustine's University, Raleigh, NC



At the opening of Saint Augustine's University's (SAU) 2014-2015 academic year there were 42 young males from across the State of North Carolina who were ready to enhance their leadership skills. These young leaders of the future participated in the George Williams Leadership Academy sponsored by Duke Energy. The academy was linked to SAU's [First-Year Experience Program](#) for incoming freshmen and designed to engage young men in various leadership activities to provide a foundation of leadership strategies for being successful inside and outside the classroom. During

the three-week residential academy, young scholars attended workshops and seminars on problem solving, how to be successful in the classroom, reading enrichment activities, life-coaching activities, and financial counseling and literacy.

The academy Director and his team selected "***Fulfilling My Destiny, Step By Step***," the new memoir of SAU graduate and book's author Robert L. Shepard, PhD, as the book to read for the academy participants. The author was on campus to interact with the participants as part of their orientation to show that no matter where their journey began they can find their purpose and their



passion while at SAU and become contributors to the global community. The participants read the book, along with the six counselors, and collectively had over 90 questions relating to the author's journey. The last part of the interactive session was devoted to the author autographing participants' books.

