

1163-01-1260 **Fern Yvette Hunt*** (fern.hunt@nist.gov). *James Donaldson as Faculty Mentor and Activist Ally.*

The past 3 decades have ushered in a vast increase in the number of African American mathematicians and statisticians who have been able to have not just normal careers but even brilliant careers with notable achievements. That is in no small part due to those pioneers in the mathematical sciences who came of age in the 1950's and 1960's. Among such leaders, 6 foot 5 James Ashley Donaldson stands tall. Alongside his roles in the National Association of Mathematics (NAM) and the American Mathematical Society (AMS), Donaldson's most significant achievement was building the Howard Mathematics PhD program after its founding in 1971. We will discuss the years when Hunt was a faculty member in the department and Donaldson was chairman. We next turn to a discussion of Donaldson's participation in the anti- Vietnam war and women's movement and his importance as a bridge between the groups of largely non-minority mathematicians who participated in them and African American mathematicians. We show how the cause of human rights in the mathematics community benefited from this alliance. (Received September 15, 2020)