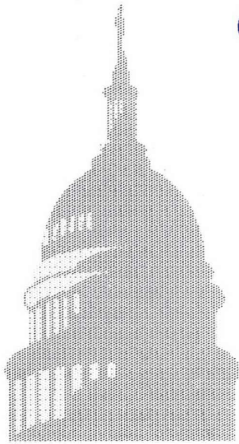


*White House Initiative on Historically Black
Colleges and Universities
(HBCUs)*



NEWSLETTER

Issue 3

July 1995

President Clinton participates in meeting with his Advisory Board on HBCUs



President Clinton meets with Board of Advisors on HBCUs

February 16, 1995 - President Clinton met with his Board of Advisors on Historically Black Colleges and Universities at the White House.

Joining the President was Secretary of Education Richard W. Riley, Assistant to the President and Director of the Office of Public Liaison, Alexis Herman, and Executive Director of the White House Initiative on HBCUs, Catherine W. LeBlanc. The President expressed his appreciation to Board members for their willingness to serve in such an important capacity at a critical time for education in this country. The President and Secretary Riley reaffirmed the Administration's support for the institutions this Board represents. Board members emphasized to the President the importance of increasing student financial aid for students attending these institutions, the critical role of the Title III program, and the need to ensure that federal agencies fully implement the President's Executive Order on HBCUs. Dr. Lloyd Hackley, President of the North Carolina System of Community Colleges, is Chairman of the President's Board of Advisors.

New Board Members

Since the last Newsletter, the White House announced the appointment of the following individuals to the Board: Frederick Calhoun James, Bishop of the Second Episcopal District of the African Methodist Episcopal Church, and Huel

D. Perkins, Executive Assistant to the Chancellor at Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, and Professor Emeritus of Humanities at Southern University.

Administration Officials on HBCU Campuses

Vice President Al Gore addressed the student body at Morris Brown College in Atlanta, Georgia during his tour of the nation's "Empowerment Zone" areas. He also participated in the annual meeting of Black Mayors on the campus of LeMoyne-Owen College in Memphis, Tennessee.

Attorney General Janet Reno spoke at Central State University's Honors Day Program in Wilberforce, Ohio.

Federal Highway Administrator *Rodney Slater* was the 1995 Commencement Speaker at three HBCUs: Bethune-Cookman College in Daytona Beach, Florida; North Carolina A&T State University in Greensboro, North Carolina; and Tuskegee University in Tuskegee, Alabama.

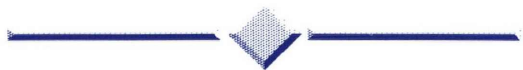
Executive Director visits South Africa & Senegal

Catherine LeBlanc, Executive Director of the White House Initiative on HBCUs, accompanied by representatives from the

United States Agency for International Development in Pretoria, South Africa, visited many of the historically Black colleges and universities in South Africa in conjunction with the USAID/South Africa's "Tertiary Education Linkages Project" (TELP). Ms. LeBlanc was joined by former Ambassador Andrew Young in a kickoff program for Chancellors and rectors of the institutions. The \$50 million, ten-year project was approved and authorized in December. The agency expects HBCUs to play a significant role in project implementation.

A major outcome of the Executive Director's visit will be an upcoming conference, to be hosted by the White House Initiative office, in which South African and HBCU educators will participate.

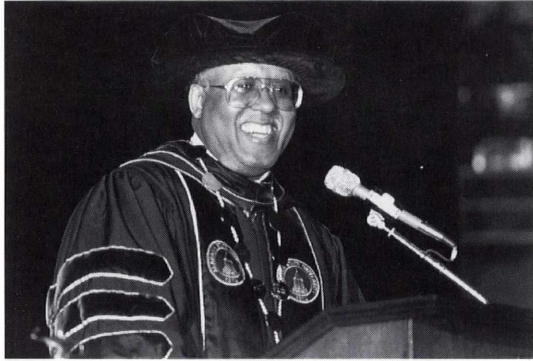
Ms. LeBlanc was also a member of the official U.S. Delegation that attended the African/African American Summit in Dakar, Senegal in May which was organized by Rev. Leon Sullivan. She was asked to make a presentation on existing and potential linkages between African universities and America's historically Black colleges and universities.



HBCUs AT A GLANCE

Voorhees College, founded in 1897 in Denmark, South Carolina, sponsored the *First National HBCU Conference on Violence Prevention* last fall. The conference focused on strategies by HBCUs to prevent violence in African American communities. The conference originated from an urgent concern felt by Dr. Leonard E. Dawson, President of Voorhees College, who saw the need to bring people together to discuss the spiraling rates of crime and violence in African American communities. Voorhees sponsored the conference in collaboration with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the White House Initiative on HBCUs, the Minority Male Consortium, 100 Black Men of America, Inc., and the National Episcopal Church. Dr. Dawson indicated that several post-conference initiatives are underway to help coordinate HBCU violence prevention efforts. The proceedings from the conference will be published and available for distribution in late July.

The Interdenominational Theological Center (ITC) in Atlanta, Georgia recently received an installment of \$58,750 from the AT&T Foundation. The contribution is part of a \$3.7 million grant from the AT&T Foundation to UNCF's Campaign 2000 to support libraries at the 41 member schools by restoring rare and valuable books.



Alabama State University's 10th President, William H. Harris, presides over his first commencement at Alabama State University. He was inaugurated as ASU President on April 28, 1995.

Tuskegee University held its formal dedication activities and ribbon-cutting ceremony for its new Kellogg Conference Center on May 3, 1995. This ultramodern conference center has a full-service hotel and continuing education center and was funded primarily by the W. K. Kellogg Foundation, and the U.S. Departments of Interior and Agriculture.

Langston University's John Smith, Director of Informational Services, was in the Federal Building during the recent bombing in Oklahoma City. He is currently recovering and received a call from Secretary Riley, who wished him well and extended support for a speedy recovery.

Also, Langston's "Doves in Flight Garden Club" planted five trees, four Red Buds and a Red Oak, to memorialize the bombing. The Red Buds reflect the youth lost in the tragedy, while the Red Oak symbolizes the strength of adulthood lost that fateful day. The shovel used for

this special event was the same shovel that President Clinton used on the White House lawn to plant a tree prior to his trip to Memorial Services in Oklahoma City.

St. Paul's College in Lawrenceville, Va. continues to experience tremendous success with its "Single Parent Support System" initiative. A very positive alternative to welfare, the initiative helps young parents to make a better life for themselves and their children by providing a support system to allow the parent to complete a college education. Currently,

16 students with their 18 children live in on-campus dormitory-style housing and study full-time on an academic fast-track, taking summer courses to graduate in 3 - 3 1/2 years. Children attend St. Paul's Child Development Center or local school programs.

Ms. Gwendolyn Ewell, an honor graduate, stated that four years ago she was "tired, 'broke down, ' and poor." This year, she graduated with honors and was also president of the Student Government Association. She plans to become a high school English teacher. Since its inception, eleven women have graduated from the program.

Dr. Fred Humphries, President of *Florida A&M*, in conjunction with the White House Office of Science and Technology, organized the Southeastern Science Policy Colloquium to discuss "Science in the National Interest." Hosted by the Kennedy Space Center, the conference brought together representatives from colleges and universities, corporations, and

governmental entities. Discussions centered on current and future labor force development as well as business and research issues as they relate to science and technology.

Federal Agency Highlights

Five Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) were among those selected by the *National Aeronautics and Space Administration* (NASA) to receive grants entitled "Precollege Awards for Excellence in Mathematics, Science, Engineering, and Technology" (PACE/MSET). The grants are for educational outreach projects. Those selected were:

Lincoln University, PA
Bennett College, NC
Stillman College, AL
Jackson State, MS
Jarvis Christian College, TX

Each university will receive up to \$300,000 over the three years of the grant.

The *U.S. Department of Education* awarded a \$990,400 grant to the United Negro College Fund, Inc. (UNCF) to administer the Institute for International Public Policy (IIPP) program. The IIPP program was authorized by Congress under the Higher Education Amendments of 1992. The program is designed to significantly increase the number of African Americans, Hispanic Americans, Asian Americans, American Indians, Alaskan Natives, Native

Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders in the international service. Students at all HBCUs are eligible to participate in this program.

\$\$ Direct Loan Update \$\$

Seventy-six historically Black colleges and universities have been selected to participate in the Federal Direct Student Loan Program for the 1995-96 academic year. Six HBCUs participated in the 1994-95 academic year, the pilot year of the program. Those schools are pleased with the program's simplicity, cost and time savings, and cash flow improvements.

To assist HBCUs with successful implementation of the program, the Department has made available, upon request, an on-site team to conduct a needs assessment.

In direct lending's first year, the Department disbursed \$1.3 billion in loans and collected over \$5 million in loan repayments.

The *Department of Defense* awarded grants and contracts totaling \$46 million to 31 Historically Black Colleges and Universities and Minority Institutions for infrastructure support programs in science, mathematics, and engineering. Recipients of the awards will establish educational research consortia, centers for aerospace studies, or purchase equipment for educational infrastructure and/or research needs.

A request made to President Clinton by Namibian President Sam Nujoma resulted in the establishment of a professional internship program in the United States for mid-level Namibians by the *Agency for International Development (AID)*. The Presidential Fellows were briefed by AID officials after completing a 5-month training program on democracy and governance conducted by the Mississippi Consortia for International Development. The consortia is comprised of the following HBCUs: Jackson State University, Alcorn State University, and Tougaloo College. USAID/Namibia will follow up with the participants when they return.

The *Department of Veteran Affairs (VA)* and the *Department of Energy (DOE)* conducted a "Successful Partnering" Conference April 23-25, 1995 at Florida International University, Miami. The conference was held for HBCUs, Hispanic-Serving Institutions, and Native American Tribal Colleges. The event gave faculty and students information on VA and DOE opportunities for employment, internships, grants, contracts, training programs, and collaborative research initiatives.

The *Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management (BLM)*, has implemented a "Partners for Progress Initiative" with the following HBCUs:

- ▶ Jackson State University
- ▶ Howard University
- ▶ South Carolina State University
- ▶ Bennett College
- ▶ Florida A&M University
- ▶ University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff
- ▶ Alabama A&M University.

The program is designed to establish long-term partnerships with HBCUs which will include recruiting students and faculty members in the areas of natural resources and public land management, apprising students of job opportunities in the BLM, assigning governmental employees as liaisons, and bringing resources to the universities.

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