

President's Board of Advisors on Historically Black Colleges and Universities

Meeting of September 23, 2015
Marriott Wardman Park Hotel
Wilson Room
2660 Woodley Road, NW
Washington, DC 20008
A complete transcript is available

Advisors present

William Harvey, Chairman
Demetria Henderson
Beverly Wade Hogan
Milton Irvin
Renée Mauborgne
Helen McAlpine
Valerie Mosley

Willie Pearson, Jr.
John Rice
Dianne Boardley-Suber
Kenneth Tolson
George Walker, Jr.
David Wilson

Advisors absent

Evelynn Hammonds
Edward Lewis

Ronald Mason

White House Initiative on Historically Black Colleges and Universities Staff

Ivory Toldson, Deputy Director
Sedika Franklin, Program Specialist

Elyse Jones, Program Support Specialist

U.S. Department of Education representatives

Ted Mitchell, Under Secretary
Leonard Haynes, III, Senior Director for Institutional Services, Office of Post-Secondary Education

Other Federal presenters

Carolyn Colvin, Acting Commissioner, Social Security Administration
Stephanie Jones, Deputy Chief of Staff, U.S. Department of Transportation
Sylvia James, Divisional Director, National Science Foundation

Other attendees

Lezli Baskerville, President and CEO, National Association for Equal Opportunity in Higher Education
Tamara Young Lee, Director, Office of Research and Government Relations, Alabama State University
Joseph Stevenson, Provost, Chicago School of Professional Psychology
Cheryl Smith, Senior Vice President, United Negro College Fund

for more strategic investment by the federal government in HBCUs and cited example of private industry, like Silicon Valley, making a concerted effort to increase diversity. He hoped that an upcoming meeting with the president of the Silicon Valley Community Foundation would yield positive results.

Chairman Harvey then addressed the issue of equity in education, citing the 2014 NSF report that federal support for STEM education was at its lowest level since 2000. Reiterating that the nation will never meet its goal to regain the number one spot in college graduate status without HBCUs, Dr. Harvey highlighted that the largest support of STEM funding is legislatively mandated to the 1890s land grant colleges managed by the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Of the 32 federal agencies, only four agencies, USDA, DoD, HHS and NSF contribute 91 percent of all STEM funds to HBCUs and of that only 58 percent support research and development at HBCUs. Additionally, only 31 percent of said funding supported student scientific knowledge at HBCUs. Chairman Harvey would like to see more done in the area to support faculty and student research that provides real life, hands on application. He recommends broadening participation by increasing diversity in review panels government-wide. Additionally, he sees three distinct ways that the Administration could support HBCUs:

1. Issue a Five percent aspirational goal for all agencies
2. Develop a capabilities matrix that documents HBCU capabilities which would in turn assist in developing partnerships, collaborations, and increased grant proposals of mutual benefit to the agency and HBCU.
3. Direct all agencies to adopt the NIH model for engaging early career reviewers and employ a self-referral initiative in order to increase the number of minority panelist and reviewers.

Renee Mauborgne questioned what actions had been taken to ensure that review panels have HBCU representation? Chairman Harvey shared that he had met with 14 cabinet secretaries and the Board will continue to push for such changes.

Milton Irvin asked if the language of an aspirational goal should be focused on grants since the Clinton executive order relates to contracts. Short answer, yes.

Willie Pearson, Jr. commented that in addition to changing the composition of review panels there is also a need to change the face of leadership at the state level. Chairman Harvey pledged to write a letter to the head of the National Science Board to request HBCU representation on the board.

Dr. Toldson requested a copy of President Clinton's executive order mandating five percent as a record to share with leadership as conversations are had around the potential attainment of an aspirational goal. Chairman Harvey said he'd have his office send it over.

Dr. Dianne Boardley-Suber commented that the only way for society to continue to value HBCUs is for HBCU students to continue to be involved in the political system and to elect a leader who values HBCUs.

Department's effort to increase diversity on review panels, recruit and seek HBCU faculty and a showcase of intellectual talent at HBCUs.

Request: Please encourage individuals to get involved in the panel process.

Announcement: Spelman, Jackson State and Delaware State were amongst the 2015 FITW winners.

- a. Make sure grant programs recognize the important potential contribution of HBCUs to those grants.
 - b. Ensure there's adequate notice of grant announcements.
 - c. Provide technical assistance to HBCUs to sustain and bolster capacity to complete grant applications.
- 2) College Scorecard
- a. A more advanced approach than its original college ratings format.
 - b. Although limited, information and data points will continue to be populated.
 - i. Data only reflects first-time, full-time students and is not a reflection of the majority of students. Institutions are beginning to share data that reflects transfer in and transfer out students.
- 3) Early FAFSA, effective October 1
- a. Students will now be able to use their two years' back tax return to apply for financial aid. It is an attempt to help eliminate concerns about federal financial aid during the college selection process.
 - b. Eliminates institution's burden of verification
- 4) America's College Promise—effort to ensure that universal publicly funded education doesn't end at high school
- a. Act put forth by both House and the Senate reflects not only two years of free community college but now has a scholarship program for HBCUs.
 2. First year~ \$50 million and then ramps up to \$1 billion over 10 years.
 - b. Significant maker in law that highlights the importance of HBCUs.

Under Secretary Mitchell ends comments with a statement on the value proposition of HBCUs. "Anyone who thinks that HBCUs are an anachronism is just dead wrong. HBCUs play a disproportionate role in the education of leadership of African Americans; preparation of STEM graduates; future physicians and teachers for America's schools..."

Chairman Harvey departs. Dr. Beverly Wade Hogan conducts the remainder of the meeting.

Questions were raised about the value of the College Scorecard and whether it is or is not detrimental to HBCUs. Dr. Hogan asked that those with comments submit them in writing to the White House Initiative for review by the Under Secretary's office.

Mr. John Rice asked for a candid conversation on what the Board should be doing during the fourth quarter. Under Secretary Mitchell provided the following comments:

- 1) Identify the spires of excellence across HBCUs
- 2) Work across agencies to identify discretionary funding or competitive grant programs
- 3) Establish closer collaborations to build capacity across HBCUs (institution to institution, institution to association, etc.)

co-authored by Secretary Duncan on the need for increased federal investments in HBCUs.

- c. Additional Work
 - i. Annual Reports- Used to advocate for federal funds
 - 1. 2013 Report of HBCU Performance in Federal Agency Programs is live.
 - 2. 2014 in draft
 - ii. Budget Proposals- Evaluating proposals to see where opportunities lie for HBCUs
 - 1. Identifying programming with major funds and little HBCU inclusion (i.e., Less focus on FITW and more on Gear Up, GAIN and IES grants)
 - iii. Congressional Members with Increased Desire to Support
 - 1. Congresswoman Alma Adams- Bi-Partisan HBCU Caucus co-chaired by Republican Representative Byrne from Alabama
 - a. Opportunities for conversations and actions across the aisle
 - 2. Congressman Bobby Scott- America's College Promise and HBCUs
 - iv. HBCU All-Stars- Lifting up the bright spots and sharing the HBCU Story from the student perspective.
 - 1. *HBCU Academic All Stars Separate Fact from Fiction about HBCUs*
 - v. HBCU Compendium- Revisited and will be published by the end of the Administration
 - vi. Educational Excellence for African Americans- Synergy around the pipeline into higher education, discipline inequities, college preparatory courses and equity. More to come on how both commissions can work together.

Dr. David Wilson's Presentation- HBCU Excellence in Research Initiative

Dr. Wilson seeks the endorsement of each member of the Board as well as each HBCU president supporting "HBCU Excellence in Research." An initiative modeled after NSF's EPSCoR program that targets HBCU research institutions provides funding and additional guidance to make sure from a competitive standpoint they are elevated. Although you don't reach the entire 105, there is a subset that will be in a position to say they can be competitive with anyone and tackle some of the same major research problems in our communities and cities.

Next Steps

- (1) Send 3 page concept paper to Dr. Toldson to share with the rest of the Board.
- (2) Disseminate the same information to all presidents and chancellors
- (3) Obtain feedback on the Hill
- (4) Once approved the members of the Board write letters to appropriate individuals recommending the adoption as a critical step to moving the needle at a number of institutions for the advancement of the nation.

Presentation given by Sylvia James, director of Human Resource Development at NSF in the Directorate for Education and Human Resources

Ms. James is the newly appointed NSF liaison for the PBA.

NSF is the only federal agency whose mission includes supporting all fields of science and engineering except health sciences and medical sciences.

2016 Budget Request-- \$962 million

More than 300 programs across NSF

Annually receive 42K proposals and make 10K awards.

Funding to HBCUs

Total to IHEs: \$5 billion

Total to HBCUs: \$91 million (approx. 1.7 percent)

HBCU-UP program: 67 HBCUs applied in 2014; 45 were awarded

Research & Related Activities (Large Funding): 45 HBCUs applied; 25 receive one award

Finding opportunities

- (1) Federal Business Opportunities Listing (FedBizOpps) - This is a one-stop shop for all federal government request for proposals.
- (2) Faculty Early Career- Awards \$400-\$500K for 3 years; integrates research and education.
- (3) Computer and Info Science and Engineering Research Initiation Initiative (CRI); provides research funding for new faculty and research initiation awards
- (4) Graduate Research Fellowship Program- \$12K a year for up to 3 years; provides funding for masters and doctoral level students—Need more HBCU students to apply
- (5) Graduate Opportunities for Academic Liaisons with Industry; provides funding to give faculty an opportunity to work in industry to learn and take knowledge back to institution.
- (6) I-Corps; allows funded NSF researchers to participate in coaching/mentoring experience to obtain advise on how to bring products, processes and technologies
- (7) Have faculty nominate themselves to be in the reviewer pool, then contact the program officer to indicate interest. Program officers are more likely to call upon them if interest is shown.
- (8) Visit NSF
- (9) Set up Appointments to speak with program officers

Social Security Administration

Presented by Carolyn Colvin, acting commissioner for Social Security Administration

Department is doing a major review of procurement opportunities and will link with HBCUs in the following areas:

- (1) Research
- (2) Capabilities and Needs assessments

Delaware State, Jackson State and Spelman College- Salutations on success in FITW competition

Remarks

Releasing the shift in FAFSA and the college ratings is the Administration's effort to deal with the cost of college and assess the impact of college.

FAFSA- Early FAFSA now available in October will grant an opportunity for low income families to get requests for financial aid early.

College Ratings- disappointed in the predominant criteria for assessing the effectiveness of college (cost, completion time and salary upon completion). It runs contrary to the belief that college produces students with intangible benefits.

Recommendations

Board continue to dialogue to make changes that make sense

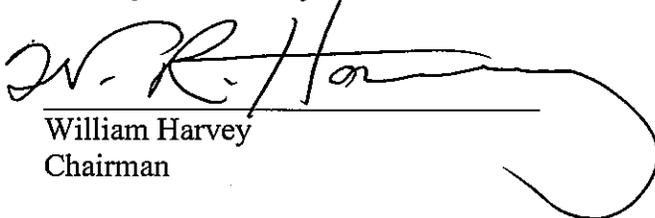
Board's next steps

Conversation about subcommittees- Dr. Toldson will review and have discussion with chairs of the committees and discuss the potential for a new committee on Centers of Excellence. Dr. Toldson will provide direction in collaboration with Chairman Harvey as to what each committee's role and responsibilities will be leading up to the next Board meeting.

Adjournment

Dr. Hogan thanked everyone for their time and continued commitment to the work of HBCUs and the meeting was adjourned at 1:01 p.m.

I certify the accuracy of these minutes.



William Harvey
Chairman

4-18-16
Date