

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

November 10, 1999

Ms. Marie V. McDemmond
President, Norfolk State University
700 Park Avenue, Suite 520
Norfolk, VA 23504-8000

Dear Ms. McDemmond:

Thank you for your letter. It addresses an education issue that is very important to this Administration. I share your concern about meeting the needs of Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) and the students who attend them.

The President and the White House Initiative on Historically Black Colleges and Universities are strongly committed to the needs of the HBCU community. Even within budget constraints, agencies such as the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, NASA, and the National Science Foundation were all able to meet the funding goals set forth in Presidential Executive Order 12876. In March of 1999, the President's Board released a report, *Historically Black Colleges and Universities for the 21st Century*, which outlined the funding needs of HBCUs. The Administration is developing strategies to support and strengthen the HBCU community by incorporating many of the report recommendations into the fiscal year 2000 and 2001 budgets.

We share your concerns about the lack of funding that HBCUs have received for the GEAR-UP program. Members of the White House Initiative are meeting with HBCUs to determine what can be done to ensure that high quality technical assistance is available before the next grants cycle. We need to work together to obtain a commitment from Congress to fully fund programs like Title III that will enable HBCUs to continue the work of fulfilling the educational needs of college students.

I appreciate your commitment to this issue and look forward to working together in the future. Thank you again for writing.

Sincerely,



John Podesta
Chief of Staff to the President



Office of the President
 Norfolk State University
 700 Park Avenue, Suite 520
 Norfolk, Virginia 23504-8000

Telephone 757.823.8670
 Facsimile 757.823.2342
 E-mail President@nsu.edu
 Web http://www.nsu.edu

REC'D 10/21/99

October 21, 1999

CC: Bruce Reed

Mr. John Podesta, Chief of Staff to the President
 The White House
 1st Floor, West Wing
 Washington, DC 20502

Dear Mr. Podesta:

On behalf of Norfolk State University and the National Association for Equal Opportunity in Higher Education (NAFEO), I am writing to respectfully request your support and immediate assistance during your work on the final stages of the Labor-HHS-Education Appropriations bill. During your congressional deliberations, Norfolk State University and NAFEO ask that you:

- Provide increased funding for Title III, Part B – \$165 million is requested for the undergraduate program and \$40 million is requested for the graduate program (Section 326). Please support any efforts to increase funding for this critically needed program;
- Provide \$4 million in funding and encourage the Department of Education to fund a technical assistance and resource center to serve the HBCU community. The center would assist our schools with student financial aid management, grant writing, research, replication of best practices, reaccreditation, information dissemination and other capacity-building efforts;
- Encourage the Department of Education to provide \$8 million to fund an HBCU GEAR-UP Demonstration, should funding for the GEAR-UP program be provided. The project will involve a consortium for four HBCUs and four school districts. The project would evaluate the efficacy of HBCUs in mentoring, enrolling, and graduating students from both rural and urban areas; and
- Provide \$17.8 million, the fully authorized remaining balance for historic preservation efforts at HBCUs, and include budget neutral report language that encourages the National Park Service to develop a plan to address the historic preservation needs of HBCUs and to report its recommendations to Congress.

I am encouraged by the interest that you and others have shown in issues affecting predominately and Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs). Now, we are at a point where the appropriations process is winding down. So far, our successes have been modest. While we appreciate the proposed increases for the Pell grant and TRIO programs and the fact that our priority programs have not been cut, none of our top initiatives have been funded at the level requested by the President. Moreover, the House funding recommendations for the Work-Study programs cause great concern, as well as lower funding levels for other critical education programs. Therefore, continued support for an increased investment in education is needed now more than ever when the economy of the new millennium will require an educated workforce.

Thank you for your immediate attention to this request. Norfolk State University and the National Association for Equal Opportunity in Higher Education thank you for all you do in "keeping the doors of opportunity open."TM

Sincerely,

Marie V. McDemmond
 President

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

November 10, 1999

Mr. Oswald P. Bronson
President, Bethune-Cookman College
640 Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune Blvd.
Daytona Beach, FL 32114-3099

Dear Mr. Bronson:

Thank you for your letter. It addresses an education issue that is very important to this Administration. I share your concern about meeting the needs of Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) and the students who attend them.

The President and the White House Initiative on Historically Black Colleges and Universities are strongly committed to the needs of the HBCU community. Even within budget constraints, agencies such as the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, NASA, and the National Science Foundation were all able to meet the funding goals set forth in Presidential Executive Order 12876. In March of 1999, the President's Board released a report, *Historically Black Colleges and Universities for the 21st Century*, which outlined the funding needs of HBCUs. The Administration is developing strategies to support and strengthen the HBCU community by incorporating many of the report recommendations into the fiscal year 2000 and 2001 budgets.

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I appreciate your commitment to this issue and look forward to working together in the future. Thank you again for writing.

Sincerely,



John Podesta
Chief of Staff to the President

OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT FOR GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

BETHUNE-COOKMAN COLLEGE

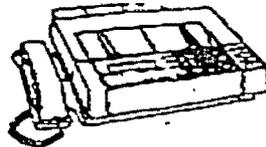
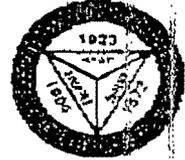
640 DR. MARY MCLEOD BETHUNE BLVD.

DAYTONA BEACH, FL 32114

COOKMAN HALL ROOM #103

(904) 257-5230 OFFICE

(904) 238-6017 FAX



TRANSMITTAL SHEET

FAX#: 1-202-456-1121

DATE: 10/19/99

TO: Mr. John Podesta

FROM: Oswald P. Bronson, Sr., President, Bethune-Cookman College

NUMBER OF PAGES INCLUDING TRANSMITTAL SHEET: 3

COMMENTS: Please refer to the following letter. Your immediate attention is greatly appreciated...

Bethune-Cookman College

MARY McLEOD BETHUNE, FOUNDER
OSWALD P. BRONSON, SR., PRESIDENT



reply

CC: Bruce Reed

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

October 15, 1999

Mr. John Podesta
Chief of Staff to the President
The White House
1st Floor, West Wing
Washington, DC 20502

Dear Mr. Podesta:

On behalf of Bethune-Cookman College and the National Association for Equal Opportunity in Higher Education (NAFEO), I am writing to respectfully request your support and immediate assistance during your work on the final stages of the Labor-HHS-Education Appropriations bill. During your congressional deliberations, Bethune-Cookman College and NAFEO ask that you:

- Provide increased funding for Title III, Part B -- \$ 165 million is requested for the undergraduate program and \$40 million is requested for the graduate program (Section 326). Please support any efforts to increase funding for this critical needed program.
- Provide \$4 million in funding and encourage the Department of Education to fund a technical assistance and resource center to serve the HBCU community. The center would assist our schools with student financial aid management, grant writing, research, replication of best practices, reaccreditation, information dissemination and other capacity-building effort;
- Encourage the Department of education to provide \$8 million to fund an HBCU GEAR-UP Demonstration, should funding for the GEAR-UP program be provided. The project will involve a consortium of four HBCUs and four school districts. The project would evaluate the efficacy of HBCUs in mentoring, enrolling, and graduating students from both rural and urban areas; and



Mr. John Podesta
Page Two
October 15, 1999

- ****Provide \$17.8 million, the fully authorized remaining balance for historic preservation efforts at HBCUs, and include budget neutral report language that encourage the National Park Service**
- **to develop a plan to address the historic preservation needs of HBCUs and to report its recommendations to Congress.***

I am encouraged by the interest that you and others have shown in issues affecting predominately and historically Black colleges and universities (HBCUs). Now, we are at a point where the appropriations process is winding down. So far, our successes have been modest. While we appreciate the proposed increases for the Pell grant and TRIO programs and the fact that our priority programs have not been cut, none of our top initiatives have been funded at the level requested by the President. Moreover, the House funding recommendations for the Work-Study programs cause great concern, as well as lower funding levels for other critical education programs. Therefore, continued support for an increased investment in education is needed now more than ever when the economy of the new millennium will require an educated workforce.

Thank you for your immediate attention to this request. Bethune-Cookman College and the National Association for Equal Opportunity in Higher Education thank you for all you do in "keeping the doors of opportunity open."

Sincerely,

Oswald P. Bronson, Sr.
President

OPB/clsa

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

November 10, 1999

Ms. Audrey E. Manley
President, Spelman College
350 Spelman Lane, S.W.
Atlanta, GA 30314-4399

Dear Ms. Manley:

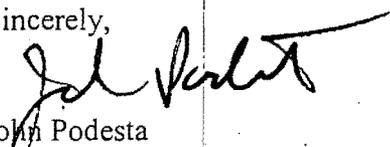
Thank you for your letter. It addresses an education issue that is very important to this Administration. I share your concern about meeting the needs of Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) and the students who attend them.

The President and the White House Initiative on Historically Black Colleges and Universities are strongly committed to the needs of the HBCU community. Even within budget constraints, agencies such as the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, NASA, and the National Science Foundation were all able to meet the funding goals set forth in Presidential Executive Order 12876. In March of 1999, the President's Board released a report, *Historically Black Colleges and Universities for the 21st Century*, which outlined the funding needs of HBCUs. The Administration is developing strategies to support and strengthen the HBCU community by incorporating many of the report recommendations into the fiscal year 2000 and 2001 budgets.

We share your concerns about the lack of funding that HBCUs have received for the GEAR-UP program. Members of the White House Initiative are meeting with HBCUs to determine what can be done to ensure that high quality technical assistance is available before the next grants cycle. We need to work together to obtain a commitment from Congress to fully fund programs like Title III that will enable HBCUs to continue the work of fulfilling the educational needs of college students.

I appreciate your commitment to this issue and look forward to working together in the future. Thank you again for writing.

Sincerely,



John Podesta
Chief of Staff to the President



Office of the President
350 Spelman Lane, S.W.
Atlanta, Georgia 30314-4399
Phone 404-223-1400
Fax 404-215-7929

October 19, 1999

reply
cc: Bruce Reed

Mr. John Podesta
Chief of Staff to the President
The White House
1st Floor, West Wing
Washington, DC 20502

Dear Mr. Podesta:

On behalf of Spelman College and the National Association for Equal Opportunity in Higher Education (NAFEO), I am writing to respectfully request your support and immediate assistance during your work on the final stages of the Labor-HHS-Education Appropriations Bill. During your congressional deliberations, Spelman College and NAFEO ask that you:

- ▶ Provide increased funding for Title III, Part B--\$165 million is requested for the undergraduate program and \$40 million is requested for the graduate program (Section 326). Please support any efforts to increase funding for this critically needed program;
- ▶ Provide \$4 million in funding and encourage the Department of Education to fund a technical assistance and resource center to serve the HBCU community. The center would assist our schools with student financial aid management, grant writing, research, replication of best practices, reaccreditation, information dissemination and other capacity-building efforts;
- ▶ Encourage the Department of Education to provide \$8 million to fund an HBCU GEAR-UP Demonstration, should funding for the GEAR-UP program be provided. The project will involve a consortium of four HBCUs and four school districts. The project would evaluate the efficacy of HBCUs in mentoring, enrolling and graduating students from both rural and urban areas;
- ▶ Provide \$17.8 million, the fully authorized remaining balance for historic preservation efforts at HBCUs, and include budget neutral report language that encourages the National Park Service to develop a plan to address the historic preservation needs of HBCUs and to report its recommendation to Congress.

I am encouraged by the interest that you and others have shown in issues affecting predominantly and Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs). Now, we are at a point where the appropriations process is coming to a conclusion. Thus far, our successes have been modest. While we appreciate the proposed increases for the Pell Grant and TRIO Programs and the fact that our priority programs have not been cut, none of our top initiatives have been funded at the level requested by the President. Moreover, the House funding recommendations for the Work-Study Programs cause great concern, as well as lower funding levels for other critical education programs. Therefore, continued support for an increased investment in education is needed now more than ever when the economy of the new millennium will require an educated workforce.

Thank you for your immediate attention to this request. Spelman College and the National Association for Equal Opportunity in Higher Education thank you for all you do in "keeping the doors of opportunity open."

Sincerely,


Audrey E. Manley
President

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

November 10, 1999

Mr. Alvin A. Cleveland
President, Selma University
1501 Lapsley Street
Selma, AL 36701

Dear Mr. Cleveland:

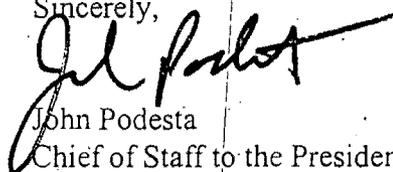
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We share your concerns about the lack of funding that HBCUs have received for the GEAR-UP program. Members of the White House Initiative are meeting with HBCUs to determine what can be done to ensure that high quality technical assistance is available before the next grants cycle. We need to work together to obtain a commitment from Congress to fully fund programs like Title III that will enable HBCUs to continue the work of fulfilling the educational needs of college students.

I appreciate your commitment to this issue and look forward to working together in the future. Thank you again for writing.

Sincerely,



John Podesta
Chief of Staff to the President

Selma University



(334) 872-2533 or (334) 872-6933

Office of the President

1501 Lapsley St.
Selma, AL 36701

cc: Bruce Reed

October 18, 1999

The Honorable John Podesta
Chief of Staff
The White House
1st Floor, West Wing
Washington, D.C. 20502

Dear Honorable Podesta:

On behalf of Selma University and the National Association for Equal Opportunity in Higher Education (NAFEO), I am writing to respectfully request your support and immediate assistance during your work on the final stages of the Labor-HHS-Education Appropriations bill. During your congressional deliberations, Selma University and NAFEO ask that you:

Provide increased funding for Title III, Part B -- \$ 165 million is requested for the undergraduate program and \$ 40 million is requested for the graduate program (Section 326). Please support any efforts to increase funding for this critically needed program;

Provide \$4 million in funding and encourage the Department of Education to fund a technical assistance and resource center to serve the HBCU community. The center would assist our schools with student financial aid management, grant writing, research, replication of best practices, reaccreditation, information dissemination and other capacity-building efforts;

Encourage the Department of Education to provide \$8 million to fund an HBCU GEAR-UP Demonstration, should funding for the GEAR-UP program be provided. The project will involve a consortium of four HBCUs and four school districts. The project would evaluate the efficacy of HBCU's in mentoring, enrolling, and graduating schools from both rural and urban areas; and

Provide \$17.8 million, the fully authorized remaining balance for historic preservation efforts at HBCUs, and include budget neutral report language that encourages the National Park Service to develop a plan to address the historic preservation needs of HBCUs and to report its recommendation to Congress.

I am encouraged by the interest that you and others have shown in issues affecting predominately and historically Black colleges and universities (HBCUs). Now, we are at a point where the appropriations process is winding down. So far, our successes have been modest. While we appreciate the proposed increases for the Pell grant and TRIO programs and the fact that our priority programs have not been cut, none of our top initiatives have been funded at the level

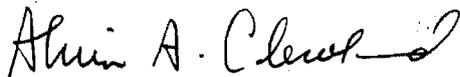
The Honorable Podesta

Page 2

requested by the President. Moreover, the House funding recommendations for the Work-Study programs cause great concern, as well as lower funding levels for other critical education programs. Therefore, continued support for an increased investment in education is needed now more than ever when the economy of the new millennium will require an educated workforce.

Thank you for your immediate attention to this request. Selma University and the National Association for Equal Opportunity in Higher Education thank you for all you do in "keeping the doors of opportunity open."

Sincerely,



Alvin A. Cleveland, *D. Min.*

President

Selma University

Selma, Alabama

AAC/paf

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

November 11, 1999

Mr. Lester C. Newman
President, Mississippi Valley State University
14000 Highway 82 West #7272
Itta Bena, Mississippi 38941-1400

Dear Mr. Newman:

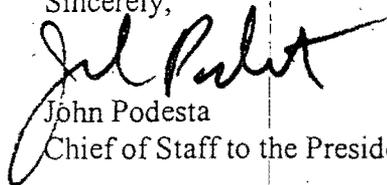
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I appreciate your commitment to this issue and look forward to working together in the future. Thank you again for writing.

Sincerely,



John Podesta
Chief of Staff to the President

reply



14000 Highway 82 West #7272
Itta Bena, Mississippi 38941-1400
TEL: (601) 254-3425 FAX: (601) 254-6709

FAX

DATE: 11/8/99

TO: John Podesta

FAX: 202-456-1121

TEL: 202-456-6798

FROM: Lester C. Newman - President

PAGES (including cover sheet): 3

MESSAGE: _____

Please call (601) 254-3425 or 3426 if you fail to receive any part of this transmission or need retransmission.



Mississippi Valley State University

ITTA BENA, MISSISSIPPI 38941-1400

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

PHONE: (601) 254-3425
FAX: (601) 254-8708

November 7, 1999

John Podesia
Chief of Staff to the President
The White House
1st Floor, West Wing
Washington, DC 20502

cc: Bruce
Reed - need reply

Dear Mr. Podesia:

On behalf of Mississippi Valley State University and the National Association for Equal Opportunity in Higher Education (NAFEO), the umbrella organization representing the Nation's 118 predominately and historically Black colleges and universities (HBCUs), I am writing to respectfully request your support and immediate assistance during congressional deliberations and revisions on the Labor-HHS-Education Appropriations bill, which was just vetoed.

While Mississippi Valley State University appreciates the increases in the Title IIIB and Title IV programs in this appropriations bill, they are inadequate to address the growing needs of member institutions and the nearly 400,000 students enrolled who are mostly from low-income families. Specifically, Title IIIB at \$141.5 million and Title IIIB, Section 326 at \$31 million will barely provide for the new institutions that are being added. These funding levels, furthermore, will not lower the number of schools that receive the minimum grant, significantly increase awards to address endowments and new technologies authorized in the 1998 Higher Education Act Amendments, and will not increase awards to institutions which are expanding their graduate and professional programs to address the underrepresentation of African Americans in science, technology, medicine, and law. An across-the-board cut of the proposed funding of these programs at any level will be further devastating.

In light of the above, Mississippi Valley State University would like to again request your support for the following proposal which would go far in addressing our needs as well as students elsewhere who depend on federal student aid:

- Provide increased funding for Title III Part B – 165 million is requested for the undergraduate program and \$40 million is requested for the graduate program (Section 326). These are critically needed funding levels to address programmatic, facilities, faculty, endowment, and technology needs on historically and predominantly Black college campuses.

- Provide \$4 million in funding and encourage the Department of Education to fund a technical assistance and resource center to serve the HBCU community. The center would assist our schools with student financial aid management, grant writing, research, replication of best practices, reaccreditation, information dissemination and other capacity-building efforts; and
- Allocate \$8 million of the GEAR-UP funding to establish an HBCU GEAR-UP Demonstration. The project would involve a consortium of four HBCUs and four school districts, and would evaluate the efficacy of HBCUs in mentoring, enrolling, and graduating students from both rural and urban areas.

I am encouraged by the interest that you and others have shown in issues affecting HBCUs. Although increases have been recommended for Title IIIB and Title IV programs, many are not at the level recommended in the FY00 Budget, and other priority programs have not been funded as indicated above. Thus, as Congress and the White House work to finalize funding for FY00, Mississippi Valley State University and NAFEO urge you to support the funding levels requested herein, specifically, and to support an increased investment in education, generally, as we face the educational and economic challenges of the 21st Century.

Thank you for your immediate attention to this request. Mississippi Valley State University and the National Association for Equal Opportunity in Higher Education thank you for all you do in "keeping the doors of opportunity open."

Sincerely,



Lester C. Newman
Mississippi Valley State University

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

November 11, 1999

Mr. Ernest L. Holloway
President, Langston University
P.O. Box 907
Langston, OK 73050

Dear Mr. Holloway:

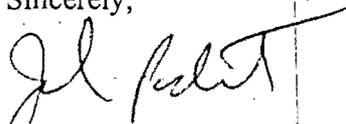
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I appreciate your commitment to this issue and look forward to working together in the future. Thank you again for writing.

Sincerely,



John Podesta
Chief of Staff to the President

need reply.

F A C S I M I L E

cc: Bruce Reed

Langston University

Office of the President

Name: John Podesta
Chief of Staff to the President

Organization: The White House

Fax: 202-456-1121

Phone:

Date: November 8, 1999

Subject: Labor -HHS-Education Appropriations Bill

Pages: 3 , including cover

Comments:

From the desk of...

Dr. Ernest L. Holloway
President
P.O. Box 907
Langston, OK 73050
405-466-3201 Phone
405-466-3461 Fax
elholloway@lunet.edu Email



LANGSTON UNIVERSITY

Office of the President

November 8, 1999

Mr. John Podesta
Chief of Staff to the President
1st Floor, West Wing
The White House
Washington, D. C. 20502

Dear Mr. Podesta:

On behalf of Langston University and the National Association for Equal Opportunity in Higher Education (NAFEO), the umbrella organization representing the Nation's 118 predominately and historically Black colleges and universities (HBCUs), I am writing to respectfully request your support and immediate assistance during congressional deliberations and revisions on the Labor-HHS-Education Appropriations bill, which was just vetoed.

While Langston University appreciates the increases in the Title III Part B and Title IV programs in this appropriations bill, they are inadequate to address the growing needs of member institutions and the nearly 400,000 students enrolled who are mostly from low-income families. Specifically, Title III Part B at \$141.5 million and Title III Part B, Section 326 at \$31 million will barely provide for the new institutions that are being added. These funding levels, furthermore, will not lower the number of schools that receive the minimum grant, significantly increase awards to address endowments and new technologies authorized in the 1998 Higher Education Act Amendments, and will not increase awards to institutions which are expanding their graduate and professional programs to address the under-representation of African Americans in science, technology, medicine, and law. An across-the-board cut of the proposed funding of these programs at any level will be further devastating.

In light of the above, Langston University would like to again request your support for the following proposal which would go far in addressing our needs as well as students elsewhere who depend on federal student aid:

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- Provide \$4 million in funding and encourage the Department of Education to fund a technical assistance and resource center to serve the HBCU community. The center would assist our schools with student financial aid management, grant writing, research, replication of best practices, reaccreditation, information dissemination and other capacity building efforts; and

An Equal Opportunity / Affirmative Action Employer

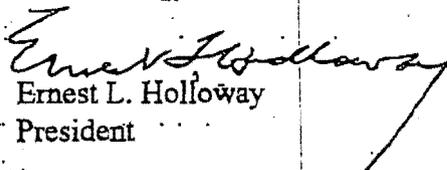
Mr. John Podesta
Page 2

- Allocate \$8 million of the GEAR-UP funding to establish an HBCU GEAR-UP Demonstration. The project would involve a consortium of four HBCUs and four school districts, and would evaluate the efficacy of HBCUs in mentoring, enrolling, and graduating students from both rural and urban areas.

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Thank you for your immediate attention to this request. Langston University and the National Association for Equal Opportunity in Higher Education thank you for all you do in "keeping the doors of opportunity open."™

Sincerely,


Ernest L. Holloway
President

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

November 15, 1999

Dr. Roberta S. Matthews
Interim President
Fiorello H. LaGuardia Community College
31-10 Thomson Avenue
Long Island City, NY 11101-9976

Dear Dr. Matthews:

Thank you for your letter. It addresses an education issue that is very important to this Administration. I share your concern about meeting the needs of Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) and the students who attend them.

The President and the White House Initiative on Historically Black Colleges and Universities are strongly committed to the needs of the HBCU community. Even within budget constraints, agencies such as the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, NASA, and the National Science Foundation were all able to meet the funding goals set forth in Presidential Executive Order 12876. In March of 1999, the President's Board released a report, *Historically Black Colleges and Universities for the 21st Century*, which outlined the funding needs of HBCUs. The Administration is developing strategies to support and strengthen the HBCU community by incorporating many of the report recommendations into the fiscal year 2000 and 2001 budgets.

We share your concerns about the lack of funding that HBCUs have received for the GEAR-UP program. Members of the White House Initiative are meeting with HBCUs to determine what can be done to ensure that high quality technical assistance is available before the next grants cycle. We need to work together to obtain a commitment from Congress to fully fund programs like Title III that will enable HBCUs to continue the work of fulfilling the educational needs of college students.

I appreciate your commitment to this issue and look forward to working together in the future. Thank you again for writing.

Sincerely,



John Podesta
Chief of Staff to the President



Fiorello H. LaGuardia Community College THE CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK
31-10 THOMSON AVENUE, LONG ISLAND CITY, N.Y. 11101 Telephone (718) 482-7200

Fax

To: *Mr. John Podesta*

From: Dr. Roberta S. Matthews
Interim President

Fax: *202-456-1121*

Pages: 3, Including cover sheet

Phone: *202-456-6798*

Date: November 8, 1999

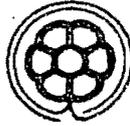
Re: Labor-HHS- Education Appropriations Bill

Urgent **For Review** **Please Comment** **Please Reply** **Please Recycle**

• **Comments:**

If you experience any problems with the transmittal of this fax, please call Ms. Eneida Rivas of the Office of College and Community Relations at telephone (718) 482-5058.

Dr. Roberta Matthews may be reached at telephone (718) 482-5050.



reply

FILORELLU H. LA GUARDIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE THE CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK

Office of the President

November 8, 1999

Mr. John Podesta
Chief of Staff to the President
The White House
Washington, DC 20502

cc: Bruce Reed

Dear Mr. Podesta:

On behalf of LaGuardia Community College and the National Association for Equal Opportunity in Higher Education (NAFEO), the umbrella organization representing the Nation's 118 predominantly and historically Black colleges and universities (HBCUs), I am writing to respectfully request your support and immediate assistance during congressional deliberations and revisions on the Labor-HHS-Education Appropriations bill, which was just vetoed.

While LaGuardia Community College appreciates the increases in the Title IIIB and Title IV programs in this appropriations bill, they are inadequate to address the growing needs of member institutions and the nearly 400,000 students enrolled who are mostly from low-income families. Specifically, Title IIIB at \$141.5 million and Title IIIB, Section 326 at \$31 million will barely provide for the new institutions that are being added. These funding levels, furthermore, will not lower the number of schools that receive the minimum grant, significantly increase awards to address endowments and new technologies authorized in the 1998 Higher Education Act Amendments, and will not increase awards to institutions which are expanding their graduate and professional programs to address the under-representation of African Americans in science, technology, medicine, and law. An across-the-board cut of the proposed funding of these programs at any level will be further devastating.

In light of the above, LaGuardia Community College would like to again request your support for the following proposal which would go far in addressing our needs as well as students elsewhere who depend on federal student aid:

- ◆ Provide increased funding for Title III, Part B -- \$165 million is requested for the undergraduate program and \$40 million is requested for the graduate program (Section 326). These are critically needed funding levels to address programmatic, facilities, faculty, endowment, and technology needs on historically and predominantly Black college campuses.
- ◆ Provide \$4 million in funding and encourage the Department of Education to fund a technical assistance and resource center to serve the HBCU community. The center would assist our schools with student financial aid management, grant writing, research, replication of best practices, reaccreditation, information dissemination and other capacity-building efforts; and
- ◆ Allocate \$8 million of the GEAR-UP funding to establish an HBCU GEAR-UP Demonstration. The project would involve a consortium of four HBCUs and four school districts, and would evaluate the efficacy of HBCUs in mentoring, enrolling, and graduating students from both rural and urban areas.

Mr. John Podesta

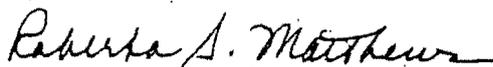
11/9/99

Page 2

I am encouraged by the interest that you and others have shown in issues affecting HBCUs. Although increases have been recommended for Title III B and Title IV programs, many are not at the level recommended in the FY00 Budget, and other priority programs have not been funded as indicated above. Thus, as Congress and the White House work to finalize funding for FY00, LaGuardia Community College and NAFEO urge you to support the funding levels requested herein, specifically, and to support an increased investment in education, generally, as we face the educational and economic challenges of the 21st Century.

Thank you for your immediate attention to this request. LaGuardia Community College and the National Association for Equal Opportunity in Higher Education thank you for all you do in "keeping the doors of opportunity open."

Sincerely,



Roberta S. Matthews, Ph.D.

Interim President

RSM/em



THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

November 15, 1999

Mr. Willis B. McLeod
Chancellor, Fayetteville State University
1200 Murchison Road
Fayetteville, NC 28301

Dear Mr. McLeod:

Thank you for your letter. It addresses an education issue that is very important to this Administration. I share your concern about meeting the needs of Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) and the students who attend them.

The President and the White House Initiative on Historically Black Colleges and Universities are strongly committed to the needs of the HBCU community. Even within budget constraints, agencies such as the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, NASA, and the National Science Foundation were all able to meet the funding goals set forth in Presidential Executive Order 12876. In March of 1999, the President's Board released a report, *Historically Black Colleges and Universities for the 21st Century*, which outlined the funding needs of HBCUs. The Administration is developing strategies to support and strengthen the HBCU community by incorporating many of the report recommendations into the fiscal year 2000 and 2001 budgets.

We share your concerns about the lack of funding that HBCUs have received for the GEAR-UP program. Members of the White House Initiative are meeting with HBCUs to determine what can be done to ensure that high quality technical assistance is available before the next grants cycle. We need to work together to obtain a commitment from Congress to fully fund programs like Title III that will enable HBCUs to continue the work of fulfilling the educational needs of college students.

I appreciate your commitment to this issue and look forward to working together in the future. Thank you again for writing.

Sincerely,



John Podesta
Chief of Staff to the President

117 11 77 09.50 NO.410 01705

Fayetteville State University

Office of the Chancellor

1200 Murchison Road
Fayetteville, NC 28301
910-486-1141
Fax: 910-486-4732

FAX TRANSMISSION COVER SHEET

Date: November 4, 1999
To: Mr. John Podesta
Fax: 202-456-1121
Re: Revision of the Labor-HHS-Education Appropriations bill
Sender: Willis B. McLeod

YOU SHOULD RECEIVE 3 PAGES(S), INCLUDING THIS COVER SHEET. IF YOU DO NOT RECEIVE ALL THE PAGES, PLEASE CALL 486-1141.



need reply

OFFICE OF THE CHANCELLOR

November 4, 1999

cc: Bruce Reed

Mr. John Podesta
Chief of Staff to the President
The White House
1st Floor, West Wing
Washington, DC 20502

Dear Mr. Podesta:

On behalf of Fayetteville State University and the National Association for Equal Opportunity in Higher Education (NAFEO), the umbrella organization representing the Nation's 118 predominately and historically Black colleges and universities (HBCUs), I am writing to respectfully request your support and immediate assistance during congressional deliberations and revisions on the Labor-HHS-Educations Appropriations bill, which was just vetoed.

While Fayetteville State University appreciates the increases in the Title IIIB and Title IV programs in this appropriations bill, they are inadequate to address the growing needs of member institutions and the nearly 400,000 students enrolled who are mostly from low-income families. Specifically, Title IIIB at \$141.5 million and Title IIIB, Section 326 at \$31 million will barely provide for the new institutions that are being added. These funding levels, furthermore, will not lower the number of schools that receive the minimum grant, significantly increase awards to address endowments and new technologies authorized in the 1998 Higher Education Act Amendments, and will not increase awards to institutions which are expanding their graduate and professional programs to address the Underrepresentation of African American in science, technology, medicine, and aw. An across-the-board cut of the proposed funding of these programs at any level will be further devastating.

In light of the above, Fayetteville State University would like to again request your support for the following proposal which would go far in addressing our needs as well as students elsewhere who depend on federal student aid:

- Provide increased funding for Title III, Part B - \$165 million is requested for the undergraduate program and \$40 million is requested for the graduate program (Section 326). These are critically needed funding levels to address programmatic, facilities, faculty, endowment, and technology needs on historically and predominantly Black college campuses.
- Provide \$4 million in funding and encourage the Department of Education to fund a technical assistance and resource center to serve the HBCU community. The center would assist our schools with student financial aid management, proposal writing, research, replication of best practices, reaccreditation, information dissemination and other capacity building efforts; and

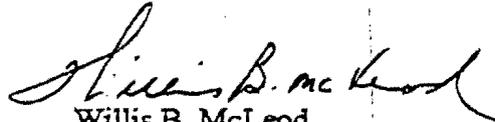
Page 2
November 4, 1999

Allocate \$8 million of the GEAR-UP funding to establish an HBCU GEAR-UP Demonstration. The project would involve a consortium of four HBCUs and four school districts, and would evaluate the efficacy of HBCUs in mentoring, enrolling, and graduating students from both rural and urban areas.

I am encouraged by the interest that you and others have shown in issues affecting HBCUs. Although increases have been recommended for Title IIIB and Title IV programs, many are not at the level recommended in the FY00 Budget, and other priority programs have not been funded as indicated above. Thus, as Congress and the White House work to finalize funding for FY00, Fayetteville State University and NAFEO urge you to support the funding level requested herein, specifically, and to support and increased investment in education, generally, as we face the educational and economic challenges of the 21st Century.

Thank you for your immediate attention to this request. Fayetteville State University and the National Association for Equal Opportunity in Higher Education thank you for all you do in "keeping the doors of opportunity open."TM

Sincerely,


Willis B. McLeod
Chancellor

cc: Dr. Henry Ponder
President and CEO, National Association
for Equal Opportunity in Higher Education

Dr. Perry A. Massey
Provost and Vice Chancellor
for Academic Affairs

Dr. Robert W. James
Director, Title III Programs

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

November 9, 1999

Dr. Henry Ponder
President and Chief Executive Officer
National Association for Equal Opportunity in Higher Education
8701 Georgia Avenue, Suite 200
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Dr. Ponder:

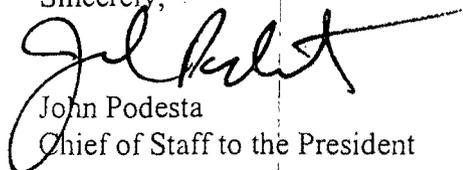
Thank you for your letter. It addresses an education issue that is very important to this Administration. I share your concern about meeting the needs of Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) and the students who attend them.

The President and the White House Initiative on Historically Black Colleges and Universities are strongly committed to the needs of the HBCU community. Even within budget constraints, agencies such as the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, NASA, and the National Science Foundation were all able to meet the funding goals set forth in Presidential Executive Order 12876. In March of 1999, the President's Board released a report, *Historically Black Colleges and Universities for the 21st Century*, which outlined the funding needs of HBCUs. The Administration is developing strategies to support and strengthen the HBCU community by incorporating many of the report recommendations into the fiscal year 2000 and 2001 budgets.

We share your concerns about the lack of funding that HBCUs have received for the GEAR-UP program. Members of the White House Initiative are meeting with HBCUs to determine what can be done to ensure that high quality technical assistance is available before the next grants cycle. We need to work together to obtain a commitment from Congress to fully fund programs like Title III that will enable HBCUs to continue the work of fulfilling the educational needs of college students.

I appreciate your commitment to this issue and look forward to working together in the future. Thank you again for writing.

Sincerely,



John Podesta
Chief of Staff to the President

National Association For Equal Opportunity In Higher Education

8701 Georgia Avenue, Suite 200, Silver Spring, MD 20910

Telephone (301) 650-2440 • Fax No. (301) 495-3306

www.nafeo.org/

October 15, 1999

Mr. John Podesta
Chief of Staff to the President
The White House
1st Floor, West Wing
Washington, DC 20502

Dear Mr. Podesta:

On behalf of the National Association for Equal Opportunity in Higher Education (NAFEO), I am writing to respectfully request your support and immediate assistance during your work on the final stages of the Labor-HHS-Education Appropriations bill. During your congressional deliberations, NAFEO asks that you:

- Provide increased funding for Title III, Part B -- \$165 million is requested for the undergraduate program and \$40 million is requested for the graduate program (Section 326). Please support any efforts to increase funding for this critically needed program;
- Provide \$4 million in funding and encourage the Department of Education to fund a technical assistance and resource center to serve the HBCU community. The center would assist our schools with student financial aid management, grant writing, research, replication of best practices, reaccreditation, information dissemination and other capacity-building efforts;
- Encourage the Department of Education to provide \$8 million to fund an HBCU GEAR-UP Demonstration, should funding for the GEAR-UP program be provided. The project will involve a consortium of four HBCUs and four school districts. The project would evaluate the efficacy of HBCUs in mentoring, enrolling, and graduating students from both rural and urban areas; and
- Provide \$17.8 million, the fully authorized remaining balance for historic preservation efforts at HBCUs, and include budget neutral report language that encourages the National Park Service to develop a plan to address the historic preservation needs of HBCUs and to report its recommendations to Congress.

I am encouraged by the interest that you and others have shown in issues affecting predominately and historically Black colleges and universities (HBCUs). Now, we are at a point where the appropriations process is winding down. So far, our successes have been modest. While we appreciate the proposed increases for the Pell grant and TRIO programs and the fact that our priority programs have not been cut, none of our top initiatives have been funded at the level requested by the President. Moreover, the House funding recommendations for the Work-Study programs cause great concern, as well as lower funding levels for other critical education programs. Therefore, continued support for an increased investment in education is needed now more than ever when the economy of the new millennium will require an educated workforce.

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Vice President, NAFEO



NAFEO

"KEEPING THE DOORS OF OPPORTUNITY OPEN"

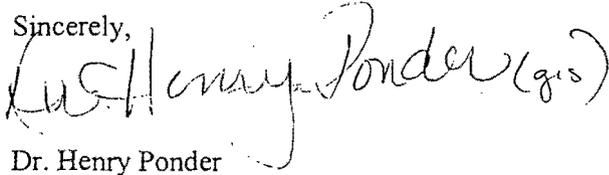
need
reply

October 15, 1999

Page 2

Thank you for your immediate attention to this request. The National Association for Equal Opportunity in Higher Education thanks you for all you do in "keeping the doors of opportunity open."™

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Dr. Henry Ponder (9/15)". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned to the right of the word "Sincerely,".

Dr. Henry Ponder
President & CEO

need reply



cc: Bruce Reed

1111 E. Artesia Boulevard
Compton, CA 90221-5393
Ph. (310) 900-1600
Fax (310) 900-1696

November 10, 1999

Ulis C. Williams
PRESIDENT/
SUPERINTENDENT

Board of Trustees

Amen Rahh
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Ignacio Peña
VICE PRESIDENT

Melanie Curtis-Andrews
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Carl E. Robinson Sr.
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MEMBER

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Carson
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Paramount
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Mr. John Podesta
Chief of Staff to the President
The White House
1st Floor, West Wing
Washington, DC 20502

Dear Mr. Podesta:

On behalf of Compton Community College and the National Association for Equal Opportunity in Higher Education (NAFEO), the umbrella organization representing the Nation's 118 predominately and historically Black colleges and universities (HBCU's), I am writing to respectfully request your support and immediate assistance during congressional deliberations and revisions on the Labor-HHS-Education Appropriations bill, which was just vetoed.

While Compton Community College appreciates the increases in the Title IIIB and Title IV programs in this appropriations bill, they are inadequate to address the growing needs of member institutions and the nearly 400,000 students enrolled who are mostly from low-income families. Specifically, Title IIIB at \$141.5 million and Title IIIB, Section 326 at \$31 million will barely provide for the new institutions that are being added. These funding levels, furthermore, will not lower the number of schools that receive the minimum grant, significantly increase awards to address endowments and new technologies authorized in the 1998 Higher Education Act Amendments, and will not increase awards to institutions which are expanding their graduate and professional programs to address the under representation of African Americans in science, technology, medicine, and law. An across-the-board out of the proposed funding of these programs at any level will be further devastating.

In light of the above, Compton Community College would like to again request your support for the following proposal which would go far in addressing our needs as well as students elsewhere who depend on federal student aid:

Mr. John Podesta
November 10, 1999
Page 2

- Provide increased funding for Title III, Part B -- \$165 million is requested for the undergraduate program and \$40 million is requested for the graduate program (Section 326). These are critically needed funding levels to address programmatic, facilities, faculty, endowment, and technology needs on historically and predominantly Black college campuses.
- Provide \$4 million in funding and encourage the Department of Education to fund a technical assistance and resource center to serve the HBCU community. The center would assist our schools with student financial aid management, grant writing, research, replication of best practices, re-accreditation, information dissemination and other capacity-building efforts;
- Allocate \$8 million of the GEAR-UP funding to establish an HBCU GEAR-UP Demonstration. The project would involve a consortium of four HBCUs and four school districts, and would evaluate the efficacy of HBCUs in mentoring, enrolling, and graduating students from both rural and urban areas.

I am encouraged by the interest that you and others have shown in issues affecting HBCUs. Although increases have been recommended for Title IIIB and Title IV programs, many are not at the level recommended in the FY00 Budget, and other priority programs have not been funded as indicated above. Thus, as Congress and the White House work to finalize funding for FY00, Compton Community College and NAFEO urge you to support the funding levels requested herein, specifically, and to support an increased investment in education, generally, as we face the educational and economic challenges of the 21st Century.

Thank you for your immediate attention to this request. Compton Community College and the National Association for Equal Opportunity in Higher Education thank you for all you do in "keeping the doors of opportunity open."

Sincerely,



Ullis Williams
President-Superintendent
Compton Community College

UW:ce

need reply



cc: Bruce Reed

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
807 WALKER AVE.
MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE 38128
(901) 942-7301

November 10, 1999

Mr. John Podesta
Chief of Staff to the President
The White House
First Floor, West Wing
Washington, DC 20502

Dear Mr. Podesta:

On behalf of LeMoyne-Owen College and the National Association for Equal Opportunity in Higher Education (NAFEO), the umbrella organization representing the Nation's 118 predominantly and historically black colleges and universities (HBCUs), I am writing to respectfully request your support and immediate assistance during congressional deliberations and revisions on the Labor-HHS-Education Appropriations bill, which was just vetoed.

While LeMoyne-Owen College appreciates the increases in the Title IIIB and Title IV programs in this appropriations bill, they are inadequate to address the growing needs of member institutions and the nearly 400,000 students enrolled who are mostly from low-income families. Specifically, Title IIIB at \$141.5 million and Title IIIB, Section 326 at \$31 million will barely provide for the new institutions that are being added. These funding levels, furthermore, will not lower the number of schools that receive the minimum grant, significantly increase awards to address endowments and new technologies authorized in the 1998 Higher Education Act Amendments, and will not increase awards to institutions which are expanding their graduate and professional programs to address the underrepresentation of African Americans in science, technology, medicine, and law. An across-the-board cut of the proposed funding of these programs at any level will be further devastating.

In light of the above, LeMoyne-Owen College would like to again request your support for the following proposal which would go far in addressing our needs as well as students elsewhere who depend on federal student aid:

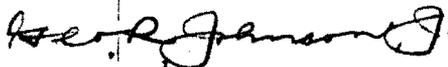
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Thank you for your immediate attention to this request. LeMoyne-Owen College and the National Association for Equal Opportunity in Higher Education thank you for all you do in "keeping the doors of opportunity open."

Sincerely,



George R. Johnson, Jr.
President

GRJJr./vjpg



need reply.

CC: Bruce Reed

Office of the President

November 8, 1999

The Honorable John Podesta
Chief of Staff to the President
The White House
1st Floor, West Wing
Washington, DC 20502

Dear Mr. Podesta:

On behalf of Morgan State University and the National Association for Equal Opportunity in Higher Education (NAFEO), the umbrella organization representing the Nation's 118 predominately and historically Black colleges and universities (HBCUs), I am writing to respectfully request your support and immediate assistance during congressional deliberations and revisions on the Labor-HHS-Education Appropriations bill, which was just vetoed.

While Morgan State University appreciates the increases in the Title IIIB and Title IV programs in this appropriations bill, they are inadequate to address the growing needs of member institutions and the nearly 400,000 students enrolled who are mostly from low-income families. Specifically, Title IIIB at \$141.5 million and Title IIIB, Section 326 at \$31 million will barely provide for the new institutions that are being added. These funding levels, furthermore, will not lower the number of schools that receive the minimum grant, significantly increase awards to address endowments and new technologies authorized in the 1998 Higher Education Act Amendments, and will not increase awards to institutions which are expanding their graduate and professional programs to address the underrepresentation of African Americans in science, technology, medicine and law. An across-the-board cut of the proposed funding of these programs at any level will be further devastating.

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1700 E. Cold Spring Lane • Truth Hall, Rm. 403 • Baltimore, MD 21251
(410) 319-3200 • Fax (410) 319-3107

The Honorable John Podesta

November 8, 1999

Page 2

- Provide \$4 million in funding and encourage the Department of Education to fund a technical assistance and resource center to serve the HBCU community. The center would assist our schools with student financial aid management, grant writing, research, replication of best practices, reaccreditation, information dissemination and other capacity-building efforts; and
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Thank you for your immediate attention to this request. Morgan State University and the National Association for Equal Opportunity in Higher Education thank you for all you do in "keeping the doors of opportunity open."™

Sincerely,



Earl S. Richardson
President

ESR/bb