



2009 SPRING SEMESTER
STATE OF THE UNIVERSITY ADDRESS
A LEGACY RENEWED
(APRIL 8, 2009)

AS PREPARED FOR DELIVERY

**STATE OF THE UNIVERSITY ADDRESS
A LEGACY RENEWED**

DR. BREMNER, FACULTY SENATE OFFICERS, FACULTY SENATE MEMBERS, DEANS AND COLLEAGUES, THANK YOU FOR THIS OPPORTUNITY TO SHARE WITH YOU SOME OF THE MAJOR INITIATIVES THAT WE HAVE BEGUN TO ACCOMPLISH TOGETHER, SOME OF THE CHALLENGES WE FACE AND SOME OF THE INITIATIVES WE PLAN AS THE ACADEMIC YEAR DRAWS TO A CLOSE.

AS YOU ALL KNOW, I'VE BEEN ON CAMPUS AS YOUR PRESIDENT FOR LESS THAN A YEAR. IN SOME WAYS IT SEEMS LIKE I ARRIVED YESTERDAY; IN OTHER WAYS, LIKE I HAVE BEEN HERE FOR YEARS.

I CAME HERE AS SOMEONE WHO KNEW HOWARD BY REPUTATION, NOT FROM PERSONAL EXPERIENCE. AND WHAT A REPUTATION IT IS. WHEN I ARRIVED, I UNDERSTOOD INTELLECTUALLY WHAT A NATIONAL TREASURE HOWARD IS.

DURING MY SHORT TENURE, I HAVE DEVELOPED A FULLER APPRECIATION OF WHAT HOWARD STANDS FOR AND THE REMARKABLE CONTRIBUTIONS IT, AND THOSE ASSOCIATED WITH IT HAVE MADE TO THE AMERICAN EXPERIENCE—CULTURALLY, IN SOCIAL JUSTICE AND IN THE MYRIAD OF ACADEMIC DISCIPLINES AND PURE AND APPLIED RESEARCH THAT ARE REPRESENTED IN THIS ROOM.

VISION

A CRITICAL PART OF MY ROLE—OUR ROLE—IN RENEWING HOWARD’S EXTRAORDINARY LEGACY LIES IN ESTABLISHING A SHARED VISION FOR OUR INSTITUTION AND MEASURING PROGRESS TOWARD IT. SINCE MY ARRIVAL, I HAVE SPENT A GREAT DEAL OF TIME ARTICULATING MY VISION FOR HOWARD. I HAVE SHARED WITH YOU THAT:

- WE MUST WORK TOGETHER TO MAKE HOWARD ONE OF THE TOP 50 RESEARCH UNIVERSITIES IN THE UNITED STATES, UNIQUE IN ITS RESEARCH POSITION AMONG HBCUS.
- WE MUST FOSTER AN ENVIRONMENT OF ACADEMIC FREEDOM, WHICH PROVIDES MORE THAN AN OPPORTUNITY FOR FREE SPEECH, INQUIRY AND INTELLECTUAL HONESTY, BUT ACTIVELY ENCOURAGES AND EVEN DEMANDS IT.
- WE MUST WORK TO REMEDY THE DRAMATIC IMBALANCE IN OUR STUDENT POPULATION BETWEEN MEN AND WOMEN. WE MUST WORK HARDER TO IDENTIFY AND ENCOURAGE YOUNG, INTELLIGENT BLACK MEN TO ENROLL AT HOWARD AND PROVIDE THEM WITH THE HELP AND SUPPORT THEY NEED TO SUCCEED AND GRADUATE.
- WE MUST TAKE ADVANTAGE OF OUR LOCATION NEAR THE HEART OF OUR NATIONAL GOVERNMENT TO BE RECOGNIZED FOR OUR CRITICAL RESEARCH IN HEALTH, EDUCATION, PUBLIC POLICY AND THE STEM AREAS.

- WE MUST BE AN INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY, MAKING SURE THAT OUR FACULTY IMMERSSES OUR STUDENTS IN THE REALITIES OF A CHANGING WORLD WITHOUT BOUNDARIES AND EDUCATING THEM TO PARTICIPATE IN THE INTERNATIONAL WORLD.
- WE MUST BUILD ON OUR SERVICE ORIENTATION, TO BE AN ACTIVE LEADER IN ADDRESSING THE DISPARITIES THAT EXIST IN SOCIETY—IN MEDICINE, IN LAW, IN EDUCATION—IN ANY ASPECT OF THE HUMAN ENDEAVOR WHERE ONE SEGMENT OF THE COMMUNITY IS LESSER SERVED THAN OTHERS.
- FINALLY, WE MUST ACTIVELY SEEK OPPORTUNITIES TO PARTNER WITH OTHERS—GOVERNMENT AGENCIES, OTHER INSTITUTIONS, CORPORATIONS AND FOUNDATIONS. THESE RELATIONSHIPS WILL NOT ONLY INCREASE OUR OPPORTUNITIES TO DEVELOP A TRULY ROBUST RESEARCH AGENDA AT HOWARD, THEY WILL PROVIDE A CRUCIBLE FOR ROBUST INTELLECTUAL AND ACADEMIC ENVIRONMENT.

I CONTINUE TO SHARE MY VISION WITH YOU SO THAT THE DIRECTION FOR HOWARD IS NOT UNCERTAIN FOR ANY OF US. I HAVE HAD THESE DISCUSSIONS WITH YOU, THE HOWARD COMMUNITY AND WITH OUR PROSPECTIVE PARTNERS, WITH GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS IN D.C. AND PRINCE GEORGE’S AND MONTGOMERY COUNTIES AND OTHERS ON HOW THEY MIGHT PLAY A BENEFICIAL ROLE IN THE UNIVERSITY’S GREATER MISSION.

I AM PLEASED THAT I HAVE FELT A GROUNDSWELL OF SUPPORT FOR THESE GOALS FROM ALL OF THESE GROUPS. I AM ALSO PLEASED THAT AS WE HAVE DISCUSSED THESE GOALS IN MEETINGS, OPEN FORUMS AND IN CASUAL CONVERSATION, I HAVE SENSED A GROWING PERSONAL RECOGNITION AMONG MANY PARTICIPANTS OF THE ROLE THEY CAN PLAY IN HELPING US ACHIEVE OUR SHARED VISION.

MAKE NO MISTAKE; THE ROLE OF A GREAT UNIVERSITY IS BOTH COMPLEX AND LABOR INTENSIVE. WE MUST EDUCATE OUR STUDENTS, PERFORM IMPORTANT RESEARCH, SHARE OUR DISCOVERIES, AND SERVE OUR COMMUNITIES REGIONALLY, NATIONALLY AND INTERNATIONALLY.

STUDENTS

TO BECOME AN EFFECTIVE INSTITUTION WE MUST TAKE CARE OF OUR *STUDENTS FIRST*. LAST FALL WE COMMITTED TO DESIGNING A UNIVERSITY-WIDE “STUDENTS FIRST” CAMPAIGN TO IMPROVE THE HOWARD STUDENT EXPERIENCE FROM THE FIRST CONTACT WITH THE UNIVERSITY THROUGH GRADUATION AND BEYOND.

MEETINGS WERE HELD WITH MANY OF YOU AND OTHER KEY STAKEHOLDERS TO DISCUSS OUR STUDENTS’ EXPERIENCE. FOR RAPID PROCESS IMPROVEMENT, WORK SESSIONS WERE COMPLETED IN STUDENT LIFE & ACTIVITIES, RESIDENCE LIFE, ADMISSIONS, STUDENT ACCOUNTS AND LOANS AND COLLECTIONS.

RAPID WORK GROUPS ARE COMPRISED OF STUDENTS, BOTH UNDERGRADUATE AND GRADUATE, STAFF, ALUMNI AND FACULTY. THESE GROUPS MET AND RANKED THE CRITICAL SERVICE AREAS MOST IN NEED OF ENHANCING SYSTEMS AND OPERATIONS. ADDITIONAL WORK SESSIONS WILL OCCUR IN THE NEXT WEEK FOR RECORDS, CASHIERS, ACADEMIC ADVISING AND FINANCIAL AID.

OUR GOAL IS TO HAVE AT LEAST ONE PROCESS IMPROVEMENT IN PLACE IN EACH OF THE EIGHT FOCUS AREAS BY THE END OF THE ACADEMIC YEAR. WE ARE WELL ON OUR WAY. IN ADDITION, NEXT WEEK EACH SCHOOL AND COLLEGE WILL SPONSOR A STUDENT'S FIRST INITIATIVE.

ACADEMICS

IN OUR ACADEMIC AND HEALTH SCIENCES ENTERPRISES, WE HAVE MUCH OF WHICH WE CAN BE PROUD.

ALL OF OUR HEALTH SCIENCE PROGRAMS ARE NOW FULLY ACCREDITED AND HOWARD IS JUSTLY RECOGNIZED AS A LEADER IN MANY OF THESE AREAS.

THE 2009 PRINCETON REVIEW, FOR THE SIXTH STRAIGHT YEAR RANKED HOWARD'S MBA PROGRAM AS #1 FOR THE "GREATEST OPPORTUNITY FOR MINORITY STUDENTS." WE WERE ALSO AMONG THE TOP TEN SCHOOLS FOR MOST COMPETITIVE STUDENTS.

OUR SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK WAS RANKED AMONG THE TOP THIRD OF SCHOOLS OF SOCIAL WORK IN THE NATION ACCORDING TO U.S. NEWS AND WORLD REPORT.

A TEAM OF OUR ARCHITECTURE STUDENTS ADVANCED TO THE FINALIST STAGE IN THE NATIONAL 2008 DISNEY IMAGINATIONS DESIGN COMPETITION.

THE SCHOOL OF LAW'S INTERNATIONAL MOOT COURT TEAM PARTICIPATED IN THE INTERNATIONAL COMMERCIAL ARBITRATION MOOT COURT COMPETITION IN HONG KONG. THEY WERE A FINALIST FOR BEST OVERALL TEAM AND RECEIVED AWARDS FOR THEIR ORAL PRESENTATION AND WRITTEN BRIEFS.

ON MARCH 28, THE HOWARD UNIVERSITY DEBATE TEAM NOT ONLY MADE ITS DEBUT, BUT THEY ALSO MADE HISTORY WHEN THEY PARTICIPATED IN "THE GREAT DEBATE" EXHIBITION WITH YALE UNIVERSITY'S DEBATE TEAM TO CELEBRATE THE NAACP'S 100TH ANNIVERSARY.

THESE ARE A FEW OF THE SUCCESSES THAT WE MUST CONTINUE TO BUILD ON. THESE ARE HOWARD STUDENTS WHO ARE COMPETING AND SUCCEEDING AT THE HIGHEST LEVEL.

WE ALSO HAVE MUCH WORK TO DO. THIS ACADEMIC YEAR WE BEGAN A REVIEW OF ALL OF OUR ACADEMIC AND HEALTH SCIENCE PROGRAMS TO STRENGTHEN THOSE THAT ARE STRONG AND TO BUILD ON PROGRAMS IN WHICH WE CAN CONTINUE TO BE COMPETITIVE.

IN THE MONTHS AHEAD, WE WILL BEGIN CONVERSATIONS ABOUT REVIEWING AND RESTRUCTURING PROGRAMS WHERE WE ARE NOT AS COMPETITIVE OR WHERE THE ENVIRONMENT HAS SHIFTED TO FAVOR OTHER KINDS OF INSTITUTIONS.

WE WILL ALSO NEED TO REVIEW ACADEMIC PROGRAMS AND COURSES WHERE WE HAVE LOW ENROLLMENT. IN SOME CASES WE ARE TEACHING CLASSES WITH FEWER THAN FIVE STUDENTS. WHEN WE BEGIN THESE DISCUSSIONS, I WILL NEED YOU TO ENGAGE IN THE PROCESS TO ASSURE THAT HOWARD STAYS AT THE HIGHEST LEVEL IN OUR MOST COMPETITIVE AREAS. AS WE HAVE DISCUSSED, THE ECONOMICS AND REALITIES OF TODAY WILL NOT ALLOW US TO BE ALL THINGS TO ALL PEOPLE—NOR IS THAT PHILOSOPHY A PATH TO THE LEVEL OF ACADEMIC AND RESEARCH EXCELLENCE WE WANT THE UNIVERSITY TO ACHIEVE.

MIDDLE STATES

WE ARE CURRENTLY IN PREPARATION FOR REAFFIRMATION OF ACCREDITATION BY THE MIDDLE STATES COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION, A PROCESS THAT

REQUIRES A UNIVERSITY-WIDE SELF-STUDY OF OUR SYSTEMS AND OPERATIONS WITHIN THE CONTEXT OF OUR MISSION AND GOALS. DR. NANCY CANTOR, PRESIDENT OF SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY HAS BEEN APPOINTED AS THE CHAIR OF THE HOWARD UNIVERSITY REVIEW TEAM. SHE WILL COME TO CAMPUS IN EARLY JUNE TO PREPARE FOR OUR NOVEMBER SITE VISIT.

THE SELF-STUDY COMMITTEE IS MAKING SIGNIFICANT PROGRESS IN COMPLETING OUR SELF STUDY REPORT. THE REPORT IS EXPECTED TO BE FINALIZED BY THE COMMITTEE AT THE END OF JUNE; IT WILL BE REVIEWED BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND THEN SENT TO ME IN EARLY AUGUST. I WILL SUBMIT OUR REPORT IN EARLY SEPTEMBER.

RESEARCH

IN THE AREA OF RESEARCH WE CONTINUE TO BUILD NEW RELATIONSHIPS, AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR PARTNERSHIP. WE ARE WORKING DILIGENTLY TO ORGANIZE, INCENTIVIZE AND SUPPORT EFFORTS TO CAPTURE FUNDS FROM THE STIMULUS PACKAGE. THE RESEARCH LEADERSHIP HAS BEGUN TO WORK ON A LONG RANGE RESEARCH PLAN THAT IS SUPPORTED BY THE FACULTY RESEARCH ADVISORY COMMITTEE TO LEAD THE UNIVERSITY INTO THE FUTURE. THE PLAN INCLUDES RENOVATION OF LABS, SUPPLEMENTS FOR PROJECTS THAT ARE ALREADY UNDERWAY, DEVELOPMENT OF NEW TECHNOLOGIES, TRAINING AND SUPPORT FOR GRADUATE AND UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS. CURRENTLY OUR RESEARCH PORTFOLIO HAS REACHED \$82 MILLION OF WHICH \$42 MILLION

IS RESEARCH AND DESIGN; AND \$40 MILLION IS IN TRAINING AND OTHER SPONSORED SUPPORT.

FISCAL HEALTH

AS I MENTIONED TO YOU IN MY LETTERS TO THE HOWARD COMMUNITY, SMALL GROUPS AND IN A TOWN HALL MEETING A FEW WEEKS AGO, WHAT WE DO IN THE FORESEEABLE FUTURE HAS AND WILL BE DONE IN AN ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT WHERE UNCERTAINTY IS A DAILY REALITY. THE TUMULTUOUS NATIONAL AND WORLD ECONOMY, THE UNPREDICTABILITY OF FINANCIAL MARKETS AND THE ABILITY OF A VARIETY OF FUNDERS TO CONTINUE THEIR FINANCIAL SUPPORT WILL IMPACT OUR OPERATIONS AND OUR MISSION FOR SOME TIME TO COME.

WE MUST BE CAREFUL STEWARDS OF OUR RESOURCES. CLEARLY, WE HAVE BEEN ATTEMPTING TO DO TOO MANY THINGS WITH TOO FEW RESOURCES, RATHER THAN FOCUSING ON OUR PRIORITIES WITH OUR FINITE FUNDS. WE CAN NO LONGER CONTINUE AT THIS LEVEL.

TO HELP DEVELOP SHARED, FOCUSED PRIORITIES, I HAVE APPOINTED A BUDGET ADVISORY COMMITTEE COMPOSED OF FACULTY, STUDENTS, STAFF AND ADMINISTRATORS TO RECOMMEND A FIVE-YEAR BUDGET PLAN.

THIS BUDGET ADVISORY COMMITTEE IS CHAIRED BY OUR PROVOST, DR. ALVIN THORNTON. THEY JUST BEGAN THEIR WORK A WEEK AGO TO EVALUATE A PLAN AND ESTABLISH RECOMMENDATIONS FOR HOW THE UNIVERSITY SHOULD SPEND ITS FUNDS THAT ARE NOT ALREADY COMMITTED FOR SALARIES, HEALTH CARE COSTS AND DEBT SERVICE.

THEIR TASK IS NOT SIMPLE AND THEY UNDERSTAND THEY CANNOT INDULGE IN MAGICAL BUDGET THINKING. EVERY INCREASE THEY PROPOSE IN SPENDING IN ONE AREA THEY MUST OFFSET BY A DECREASE IN ANOTHER. THE RESOURCES ARE FINITE; THE NEEDS AND WANTS INFINITE. I BELIEVE THIS PROCESS WILL HELP ALL OF US COALESCE AROUND COMMON PRIORITIES THAT WILL MAKE HOWARD STRONGER.

I LOOK FORWARD TO RECEIVING THEIR RECOMMENDATIONS AND WILL SHARE THEM WITH THE ENTIRE UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY.

WE HAVE ALSO BEGUN SOME NECESSARY BUT NOT SUFFICIENT INITIATIVES TO IMPROVE OUR FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE. THESE ARE SHORT TERM MEASURES THAT WE HAVE INITIATED TO BEGIN TO MEET OUR LONG TERM GOALS. WE HAVE INSTITUTED A SALARY AND HIRING FREEZE; A TWO DAY FURLOUGH FOR FACULTY AND STAFF AND A FOUR DAY FURLOUGH FOR ME AND THE CABINET. WE ALSO IMPLEMENTED A VOLUNTARY SEPARATION AND INCENTIVE

RETIREMENT PROGRAM, WHICH WILL HELP REDUCE HOWARD'S PERSONNEL COSTS.

THESE DECISIONS WERE NOT EASY AND REQUIRED A COMMITMENT FROM THE ENTIRE UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY. YOU UNDERSTOOD THAT WE NEEDED TO IMMEDIATELY DECREASE SPENDING TO ADDRESS THE DEFICIT, INCREASE REVENUES AND BEGIN TO REFOCUS THE UNIVERSITY ON INSTITUTIONAL PRIORITIES WHILE RESOLVING OUR FISCAL CHALLENGES.

OPERATIONS

THESE DECISIONS COUPLED WITH SYSTEM EFFICIENCIES WILL ALLOW US TO BEGIN TO STRENGTHEN THE OPERATIONS AND SERVICES OF THE UNIVERSITY.

THIS YEAR THE UNIVERSITY COMPLETED A MAJOR STUDY OF ITS PROCUREMENT OPERATIONS AND PROCESSES. THE MAJOR AREAS OF OPPORTUNITY INCLUDED PROFESSIONAL SERVICES, TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND CONTRACTS FOR REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE. THE SAVINGS WILL BENEFIT THE UNIVERSITY IN TWO MAJOR WAYS – COST REDUCTION OR AVOIDANCE IN MAJOR LINE ITEMS AND THE OPPORTUNITY TO GET MORE FOR OUR MONEY IN UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENTS. WE ANTICIPATE THAT THE UNIVERSITY WILL ACHIEVE THESE SAVINGS IN THE NEXT FISCAL YEAR.

FOR EXAMPLE, THIS YEAR WE ALREADY REALIZED \$100 THOUSAND IN SAVINGS IN OUR PFM DEPARTMENT BECAUSE OF A NEW ELEVATOR MAINTENANCE CONTRACT. IN ADDITION, PFM IS WORKING HARD TO REENGINEER THEIR OPERATIONS.

THE FIRST AREA OF FOCUS HAS BEEN ON UTILITIES, WHICH ANNUALLY COST THE UNIVERSITY ABOUT \$20 MILLION. THROUGH STRATEGIC PURCHASING, PARTICULARLY OUR HIGHLY SUCCESSFUL FUTURES CONTRACTS ON NATURAL GAS, WE HAVE BEEN ABLE TO AVOID INCREASES IN UTILITY COSTS THIS YEAR AND NEXT.

IN ADDITION, THE UNIVERSITY IS NOW WORKING WITH HONEYWELL ON AN INNOVATIVE PROJECT WHERE HONEYWELL WILL INVEST IN IMPROVING HOWARD FACILITIES, TO BE REPAID THROUGH THE UTILITIES COST SAVINGS FROM MORE EFFICIENT BUILDING SYSTEMS.

CAMPUS SAFETY

ANOTHER CRITICAL IMPROVEMENT IS IN SAFETY AND SECURITY. WE INSTALLED A BLUE LIGHT SYSTEM TO ALLOW ANY PERSON WHO HAS A CONCERN FOR SAFETY TO ACTIVATE THE BLUE LIGHTS AROUND CAMPUS AND OUR UNIVERSITY POLICE WILL RESPOND. RECENTLY, I WAS INFORMED THAT A STUDENT WAS BEING CHASED BY A GROUP OF INDIVIDUALS. THE STUDENT

ACTIVATED ONE OF THE NEW BLUE LIGHTS AND THE SIRENS AND LIGHTS WERE ACTIVATED AND THE POLICE ARRIVED IMMEDIATELY.

BY THE SEMESTER'S END, WE WILL ALSO BE INSTALLING A NEW GPS SYSTEM, WHERE STUDENTS CAN VOLUNTARILY REGISTER THEIR CELL PHONE NUMBER ON THE CAMPUS NETWORK SO THAT WE CAN IDENTIFY THEIR WHEREABOUTS, BOTH ON CAMPUS AND IN THE LOCAL COMMUNITY. THIS SYSTEM WILL ALLOW US TO EXPAND SECURITY MEASURES FOR OUR STUDENTS.

ONE OF THE GREATEST RESPONSIBILITIES THAT WE HAVE IS KEEPING PEOPLE SAFE AT HOWARD UNIVERSITY.

FACULTY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

WE STILL HAVE MUCH TO BE PROUD OF. OUR FACULTY IS DOING EXTRAORDINARY WORK THAT IS CHANGING THE WORLD.

LET ME MENTION A FEW: HOWARD UNIVERSITY IS ONE OF FIVE NATIONAL MINORITY AIDS EDUCATION AND TRAINING CENTERS THROUGHOUT THE UNITED STATES. THE WORK OF DR. GOULDA DOWNER AND HER COLLEAGUES TO IMPROVE HIV-RELATED OUTCOMES FOR RACIAL AND ETHNIC MINORITIES IS RESULTING IN BETTER CLINICAL CARE FOR PATIENTS AND CULTURAL COMPETENCY AND MORE EFFICIENT INFRASTRUCTURE MANAGEMENT AMONG MINORITY-SERVING CLINICIANS AND AIDS SERVING ORGANIZATIONS. AS YOU

MAY KNOW, THIS IS AT CRISIS PROPORTION FOR AFRICAN AMERICANS IN PARTICULAR AND FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

DR. EDNA MEDFORD, PROFESSOR OF HISTORY AND DR. JOSEPH REIDY, ASSOCIATE PROVOST ARE CHAIRING THE “RACE AND EMANCIPATION IN THE AGE OF LINCOLN” PART OF A NATIONAL COMMEMORATION OF THE 200TH ANNIVERSARY OF PRESIDENT ABRAHAM LINCOLN’S BIRTH, HOSTED BY HOWARD UNIVERSITY NEXT WEEK.

ANOTHER OF OUR OUTSTANDING FACULTY, DR. GREGORY JENKINS, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF PHYSICS IS THE LEADING RESEARCHER IN THE FIELD OF ATMOSPHERIC SCIENCE. HE MOST RECENTLY COORDINATED THE STUDY OF THE CONNECTION BETWEEN AFRICAN WEATHER EVENTS AND US HURRICANES.

DURING THE INAUGURATION, WE HOSTED THE REFRESH THE WORLD SYMPOSIUM. THE SYMPOSIUM CONSISTED OF A SERIES OF SEMINARS THAT ADDRESSED ISSUES RANGING FROM THE ECONOMY, EDUCATION, GENDER, HIP HOP AND THE STATE OF BLACK AMERICA. SOME OF HOWARD UNIVERSITY’S EXPERTS, DEAN LESLIE FENWICK FROM THE SCHOOL OF EDUCATION AND DR. WILLIAM SPRIGGS, CHAIR OF ECONOMICS WERE PANELISTS WITH OTHER NATIONAL LEADERS.

THESE ARE JUST A FEW OF OUR FACULTY COLLEAGUES WHO ARE DOING WORK THAT MERITS AND RECEIVES NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL RECOGNITION.

STUDENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

HAMILTON CUNNINGHAM, A JUNIOR, WAS JUST NAMED A 2009 TRUMAN SCHOLAR. HAMILTON IS AN ECONOMICS MAJOR AND ONE OF ONLY 60 STUDENTS IN 55 COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY NAMED TRUMAN SCHOLARS. HE IS THE SIXTH HOWARD STUDENT SO HONORED SINCE 1989.

WE ARE ALSO VERY PROUD TO ANNOUNCE THAT HOWARD UNIVERSITY HAS THREE NEW FULBRIGHT SCHOLARS THIS YEAR. THEY ARE ALL SENIORS FROM THE COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES. JUSTIN P. DUNNAVANT, A HISTORY AND ANTHROPOLOGY MAJOR, WILL BE GOING TO JAMAICA FOR HIS FULBRIGHT YEAR. FLORENCE MAHER, A DOUBLE MAJOR IN POLITICAL SCIENCE AND ECONOMICS, WILL TRAVEL TO GERMANY FOR HER FULBRIGHT YEAR. AND KELLY MCCRAY, A DOUBLE MAJOR IN ENGLISH AND GREEK; SHE WILL BE GOING TO THAILAND.

SOME OTHER STUDENTS THIS YEAR PAID GREAT HOMAGE TO HOWARD'S UNBROKEN HISTORY OF SERVICE, TAKING THEIR SPRING BREAK TO SERVE THE UNDERSERVED IN COMMUNITIES ACROSS THE NATION AND AROUND THE WORLD.

THESE STUDENTS ARE OUTSTANDING AND THEY REPRESENT THE BEST OF HOWARD UNIVERSITY; WE ARE VERY PROUD OF THEIR ACCOMPLISHMENTS.

CLOSING

DURING MY BRIEF TENURE AT HOWARD WE HAVE DONE A LOT TOGETHER TO HELP BALANCE THIS YEAR'S BUDGET AND PLAN FOR THE FUTURE. WE HAVE BEGUN THE WORK OF REVIEWING OUR SYSTEMS AND OPERATIONS TO BECOME MORE EFFECTIVE AND EFFICIENT. WE HAVE CONTINUED TO ENHANCE OUR ACADEMIC AND HEALTH ENTERPRISE AND INCREASE OUR FUNDING IN SPONSORED RESEARCH. WE ARE MOVING IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION TO CONTINUE THE HOWARD LEGACY AND TO RENEW THAT LEGACY. WITH YOUR IDEAS, ASSISTANCE AND COMMITMENT, WE CAN ADVANCE IT PROUDLY AS WE COMPLETE THE FIRST DECADE OF THE 21ST CENTURY.

THANK YOU.