

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
between
HOWARD UNIVERSITY
and the
U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY



October 6, 2006

Purpose

The purpose of this Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is to increase cooperation between Howard University and the United States Environmental Protection Agency (the Parties) in areas of mutual interest. This MOU builds on the Parties' previous successful collaborations, in particular the Summer 2006 Internship Program for Howard University students affected by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. Implementation of the Program Activities in this MOU should advance the development of the full human capital of this Nation, promote equal opportunity in higher education, contribute to Howard University's capacity to provide high-quality education, and encourage the participation of Howard University in United States Environmental Protection Agency programs.

Since 1970, the stated mission of the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has been to protect human health and the environment. EPA has a consistent demand for highly trained, diverse professionals in science and technology to fulfill its mission. However, the supply of diverse students that pursue science and technology related careers is decreasing. In order to meet environmental research needs and encourage full representation of all citizens, the dwindling participation of diverse students should be addressed with innovative partnerships.

Howard University is a comprehensive, research-oriented, historically Black private university providing an educational experience of exceptional quality to students of high academic potential with particular emphasis upon the provision of educational opportunities to promising Black students. The stated mission of the University is to attract and sustain a cadre of faculty who are, through their teaching and research, committed to the development of distinguished and compassionate graduates and to the quest for solutions to human and social problems in the United States and throughout the world.

Like other Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs), Howard University has provided opportunities for a diverse population of students to pursue higher education, and has increased the pool of professionals that are available to meet the Nation's scientific, financial, legal, academic, diplomatic, political, artistic, and cultural needs. The participation of HBCUs in federal programs promotes infrastructure development at these institutions, increases their capacity to provide high-quality education, increases the supply of highly trained, diverse professionals, and is therefore consistent with this Nation's interest and with EPA's mission.

1. Program Activities

Through this MOU, Howard University and EPA express their intention to work together to enhance cooperation over the next five years. Howard University and EPA recognize that there are many possible areas in which enhanced cooperation could be beneficial, including but not limited to the areas listed below. Howard University and EPA may agree to work to enhance cooperation in other areas without amending this MOU.

- a) Howard University student internships with EPA during the summer and/or the

academic year.

- b) EPA participation in career fairs and other outreach to Howard University students, faculty and alumni regarding EPA employment opportunities.
- c) Howard University faculty and student participation in public policy forums, presentations, and other events at EPA.
- d) EPA staff participation in lectures, conferences, and other events at Howard University.
- e) An EPA "Scholar in Residence" at Howard University during academic semesters.
- f) Provision of EPA experts and/or resources for environmental curriculum development and teaching at Howard University.
- g) Enhanced access by Howard University faculty and students to EPA research facilities and instrumentation.
- h) Howard University faculty serving as visiting scientists at EPA.
- i) EPA staff members serving as mentors or coaches for Howard University students.
- j) Joint research projects between Howard University and EPA.
- k) Sharing information about initiatives of third parties that are of potential interest to either Howard University or EPA.
- l) Development of electronic bulletin boards, email lists, networks and other means to support program activities, increase their visibility, and promote participation in them.
- m) Enhancing career opportunities for EPA employees through Howard University's School of Continuing Education.

2. Program Administration

The Parties plan to establish a Program Committee consisting of appropriate representatives of Howard University and EPA to manage the implementation of this MOU. The Program Committee is expected to meet at least quarterly, alternating meeting locations between Howard University and EPA, unless agreed otherwise.

Howard University designates the Ralph J. Bunche International Affairs Center to administer this MOU on behalf of Howard University, working with other Howard University departments, schools and programs, as appropriate. The EPA designates the Office of Civil

Rights to administer this MOU on behalf of EPA, working with other EPA offices, regions and laboratories, as appropriate.

3. Limitations

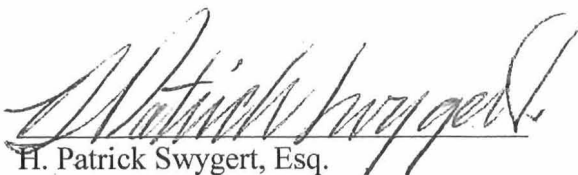
Each party will bear its own costs for activities undertaken in furtherance of this MOU. All commitments that EPA makes under this MOU are subject to the availability of appropriated funds. Nothing in this MOU obligates either party to expend appropriations or to enter into any contract, assistance agreement, interagency agreement, or incur other financial obligations. This MOU does not create any exemptions from federal policies and/or regulations relating to public involvement, employment, and competition for grants and contracts.

If either party finds that an activity undertaken pursuant to this agreement may result in the creation of intellectual property or may require the sharing of proprietary information, the parties agree to negotiate separate agreements to address those matters. Neither party shall construe any part of this MOU as an endorsement of the products or services of the other. Nothing in this agreement shall be construed as an endorsement of the fundraising activities of either party. Neither party shall make statements pursuant to this MOU that imply such endorsements.

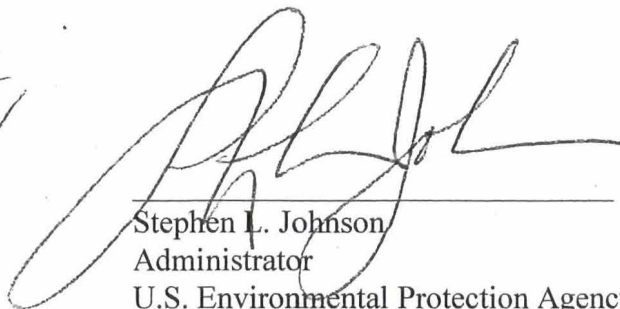
This MOU is not intended to result in any legal obligations on the part of either Howard University or EPA. This MOU does not create any right or benefit, enforceable by law or equity, against Howard University or EPA, their officers or employees, or any other person. Howard University and EPA agree that this MOU is entered into on a non-preferential basis, and either party may undertake similar MOUs with other entities on a non-preferential basis. Either party may withdraw from this MOU upon timely notification to the other party.

Representatives of both Howard University and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency sign below this 6th day of October 2006 in recognition of the terms set forth herein.

Signed:



H. Patrick Swygert, Esq.
President
Howard University



Stephen L. Johnson
Administrator
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency