



TOUGALOO COLLEGE NEWS

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Five Gates Millennium Scholars Named at Tougaloo College

Recognizing the increasing diversity in American Society and the compelling need to increase access to higher education to reflect that diversity, the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, in 1999, created the Gates Millennium Scholars (GMS) program. This program provides an opportunity for academically talented, low-income minority students to complete a college education. Since 1999, nine thousand fifty (9,050) students have been awarded GMS scholarships.

This year five Tougaloo College students join that number. Our GMS recipients include Mieshia Smith (Brookhaven, MS), Karchona Johnson (Jackson, MS), Amanda Mims (Pascagoula, MS), Evangeline Deer (Jackson, MS) and Contrina Huffman (Mound Bayou).

Founded in 1869, Tougaloo College is a private, historically black, coeducational four-year liberal arts institution, located on the northern edge of Jackson, Mississippi. Known nationally as "The Cradle of the Civil Rights Movement in Mississippi," the College is led by its first female and 13th president, Dr. Beverly Wade Hogan. Dr. Hogan is a 1973 graduate of the College and a native Mississippian. Under her visionary leadership, the College has increased its enrollment by 12% and boasts a student retention rate of 78%. Tougaloo College ranks among the top twenty institutions in the nation for producing female graduates with degrees in physics. It also ranks as one the top five historically black colleges and universities whose graduates earn their PhDs in the sciences and the College has produced more PhDs through the Mellon Fellowship Program than any other historically black colleges and universities. More than half (66%) of its graduates enter graduate and professional schools immediately after graduation. Tougaloo College is the leading producer of African American health professionals, including over 40% of the physicians and dentists, practicing in the state of Mississippi. Among its graduates are more than one-third of the state's African American attorneys and educators including teachers, principals, school superintendents, college/university faculty and administrators.