



TOUGALOO COLLEGE NEWS

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Area Mayors' Come Together to Support Education

Tougaloo, MS – Area mayors, including The Honorable Mary Hawkins-Butler (Madison), the Honorable Gene McGee (Ridgeland), the Honorable Fred Escoe, Jr. (Canton) and the Honorable Sheriel Perkins (Greenwood) are coming together as co-chairs of the 2007 Mayors' UNCF Masquerade Ball, benefiting Rust and Tougaloo Colleges.

“We are delighted to have the support of the local mayors this year,” says President Beverly W. Hogan of Tougaloo College. “It’s the first year we’ve taken this approach and it has really taken the event to another level.” Funds raised from the event go to scholarships for the 2,000 students attending the two institutions.

“One nice thing about this event,” adds President David L. Beckley of Rust College, “is that the funds raised in Mississippi, stay in Mississippi.” The Honorable Frank E. Melton (Jackson) and the Honorable André DeBerry (Holly Springs) will host the gala that will be held Friday, November 2 at 7:00 p.m. at the Marriott Hotel in downtown Jackson. The entertainers this year are all Mississippians, as well, including Compzitionz, the Russell Welch Jazz Quartet and Coop D’Belle. Senator John Horhn and WJTV-NewsChannel 12 anchor Linda Allen will be Master and Mistress of Ceremonies, respectively. Tickets are \$50 and may be purchased at Tougaloo College, Be-Bop Record Shops, or by calling 601-977-4452.

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 68%.

Tougaloo College ranks among the top 50 U.S. institutions whose graduates earn PhDs in science and engineering disciplines and among the top 15 historically black colleges and universities in the graduation of females with undergraduate degrees in the physical sciences. The College has produced more graduates who have completed their PhD degrees through the UNCF-Mellon Doctoral Fellowship Program than any other institution in the nation.

Listed as one of the Best Colleges in the Southeast by The Princeton Review (2007 and 2008 editions),), the highest ranking Mississippi HBCU on U.S. News and World Report’s list of “America’s Best Black Colleges” (2008) and the only Mississippi institution ranked among the top 20 liberal arts institutions in the nation by Washington Monthly (2007), 66% of its graduates enter professional and graduate 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.