



TOUGALOO COLLEGE NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: March 7, 2006

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Tougaloo College and Mississippi College Partner Again for Third Undergraduate Research Symposium

Tougaloo, MS - The Third Tougaloo College – Mississippi College joint undergraduate research symposium will be held at Tougaloo College on March 30 – 31, 2005. The two-day symposium provides an opportunity for undergraduate students at our regional institutions to present original research and ideas in a conference format.

The symposium also provides an accessible forum for our undergraduate students across disciplines, to showcase and promote some of their exemplary research. In addition to the five institutions that were invited to participate last year we have extended our invitation to two more institutions from Mississippi: Mississippi State University and University of Southern Mississippi. Future symposia will be organized to highlight research being done at nine institutions and to promote faculty and student collaborations between these institutions.

The goals of TCUR are: 1) to integrate research and technology across disciplines; and 2) to build local, regional and national research programs so that students have opportunities to engage in integrated research projects. Dr. Shaila Khan (Tougaloo College), Chair of the Tougaloo Council for Undergraduate Research (TCUR), says that the Council "...strives to develop, extend and strengthen our commitment to undergraduate research that will develop students' interest in future professional opportunities. We encourage seniors to discuss their research in public forums, as well as to participate in sponsored research projects, workshops and professional conferences."

To date, one hundred and one abstracts have been received for either oral or poster sessions (54 oral and 47 poster) from Jackson State University, Millsaps College, Mississippi College, Rust College, Tougaloo College and the University of Southern Mississippi. For more information, please contact Dr. Khan at 601-977-7805.

Founded in 1869, Tougaloo College is a private, historically black, coeducational, four-year liberal arts institution, located in Madison County, 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 president, Dr. Beverly Wade Hogan. The 13th president of Tougaloo College, Dr. Hogan is a 1973 graduate of the College and a native Mississippian. Under her visionary leadership, the College boasts a student retention rate of 78% and ranks as one the top five historically black colleges and universities whose graduates earn their PhDs in the sciences. More than half (66%) of its graduates enter graduate and professional schools immediately after graduation. Today, 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. It has produced more than one-third of the state's African American attorneys and educators, including teachers, principals, and school superintendents.