

PRESIDENTIAL SEARCH UPDATE

TOUGALOO COLLEGE

TOUGALOO, MISSISSIPPI 39174



OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

601-977-7730

November 10, 2025

Dear Members of the Tougaloo Family and Alumni:

I hope you are well. I am writing to provide an update on the progress of our Presidential Search for our next President.

On Friday, we successfully completed **Phase One – the application process**. We received a total of 114 applications. All committee members reviewed and screened each submission. We were assisted by WittKieffer, who categorized the applicants into three groups:

1. Recommendations for Review and Discussion
2. Qualified
3. All Other Applicants

On Friday afternoon, we spent four hours discussing and reviewing the results of the individual surveys submitted to the search firm. Following that discussion, **we identified 12 candidates to move forward to the first-round interviews**.

I want to commend WittKieffer for their outstanding work. Their aggressiveness and strategic approach in positioning Tougaloo within the broader academic community and beyond have directly contributed to the impressive pool of qualified applicants. During our discussions, WittKieffer provided valuable background insights about the candidates, drawn from their extensive experience—having conducted more than 300 searches—as well as from recommendations and professional networks.

The next phase of the search process—**initial interviews**—will take place on November 20th and 21st. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions about the process. As you are aware, the identities of the candidates will remain confidential until we are ready to extend an invitation to them to campus.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Blondean Y. Davis".

Dr. Blondean Y. Davis
Chairwoman