Office of Institutional Equity and Diversity

## Brown University - Tougaloo College Partnership (BTP) Annual Report

**Academic Year 2018-19** 



October 2019

Greetings,

I am pleased to submit the 2018-2019 Annual Report of the Brown University - Tougaloo College Partnership (BTP). Since its formalization in 1964, the BTP has been a shining example of academic excellence and bridge-building across decades. The partnership has enriched both campuses through expanded educational and research opportunities for students and faculty alike.

We have had a productive year! Our progress and accomplishments reflect the importance of stability and successful operation of standing commitments at both universities. In this annual report, we describe the many programs in place to ensure that our campus communities remain connected. You will find that programs like the Medical School Early Identification Program, Summer Teaching at Brown for Tougaloo faculty, and the Black Lavender Experience continue to thrive, while new ideas like *The Conversation* are on the horizon.

The partnership remains strong due to the committed stewardship of the BTP Council and dedicated leaders at both institutions. As the Brown University director of the BTP since December 2017, I am committed to building on our momentum to strengthen the partnership's undergraduate, graduate, faculty and staff programs through coordinated strategic efforts.

I look forward to seeing the growth of existing initiatives and the introduction of new initiatives that the coming years will bring.

Sincerely,

Shontay Delalue, Ph.D.

Vice President, Institutional Equity and Diversity

Brown University Director, Brown - Tougaloo Partnership

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# Brown University - Tougaloo College Partnership (BTP) Annual Report

#### Academic Year 2018-19

The Brown University – Tougaloo College Partnership (BTP) was formalized on May 18, 1964 - the 10th anniversary of the Supreme Court's landmark Brown v. Board of Education decision. With the issues of Civil Rights confronting both institutions, they stepped into a relationship that has remained a unique collaborative venture that engages the culture and histories of these two distinctive institutions.

The BTP is designed to enrich both campuses through academic and cultural exchanges for students and faculty, collaborative research ventures, and joint administrative initiatives. Through the various programs and projects, over 500 students and faculty have participated in the BTP since inception. This report provides a summary of the BTP Leadership Structure and a description of active programs and initiatives.

There are leadership teams on each campus that govern and oversee all activities. These groups meet regularly to evaluate projects and programs that continually reflect the needs of each institution and of society at large.

## **Leadership Structure**

## I. Leadership Teams

#### **Brown University**

- Shontay Delalue, Ph.D. Vice President for Institutional Equity and Diversity (Director)
- Maitrayee Bhattacharrya, Ph.D. Senior Associate Dean of the College for Diversity and Inclusion, Dean of the College Office
- Shay Collins, LCSW, MA Director, Institutional Equity and Community Engagement, Office of Institutional Equity and Diversity

#### Tougaloo College

- Bianca Garner, Ph.D. Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs (Director)
- Wendy White, Ph.D. Coordinator and Principal Investigator, Jackson Heart Study Undergraduate Training and Education Center
- Detrice Roberts Coordinator, Center for International Studies and Global Change

#### **II. Advisory Council**

The Advisory Council on Relations with Tougaloo College (The Council) is the principal governance body for Brown University as it pertains to the partnership. The Council consists of members appointed by the President of Brown University who are generally alumni of Brown University, Tougaloo College or both institutions. The Council considers long-term policy and planning issues, strategic direction, and efficacy of implementation concerning the relationship between Brown University and Tougaloo College. The Council meets twice yearly. Council meetings rotate between both campuses with Brown University hosting in the Fall and Tougaloo College hosting in the Spring.

#### **Advisory council members:**

#### **Brown University**

- Jessica Brooks '93 (Chair)
- Susan Adler Kaplan '58, MAT '65 (Associate Chair)
- Peter Bernstein '73, P'03 P'05
- Issac Byrd Jr., Esq.
- John Cutler '56, P'81 P'86
- Raymond Fraser '95
- D. Oscar Groomes '82, P'16
- Michael Gross '64, P'93 P'05
- Galen Henderson, M.D.'93
- Beverly Ledbetter, LLD'18 hon
- Rosie Walker-McNair, M.D. '85
- George Wallerstein '51, GP'16
- Kenneth McDaniel, '69, P'13\*

\*Kenneth McDaniel, '69, P'13 a long time supporter of the partnership whose most recent tenure on The Council was from 2003 - 2019, passed away on June 11, 2019. Ken was a key figure in the 1968 Black Student Walkout at Brown University and led a life of service - much of his time and efforts in commitment to the Brown - Tougaloo Partnership.

## **Active Programs**

The Brown Tougaloo Partnership currently features thirteen (13) active programs engaging undergraduate students, graduate students and faculty. Below are descriptions of each program in alphabetical order.

## **III. Undergraduate Student Programs**

#### Bernstein Scholars Program

Founded in 2007, the Bernstein Scholars Program funds student-led research projects that have an impact on student learning while improving and fostering the partnership between Brown University and Tougaloo College. Two (2) students applied for and received a Bernstein Scholarship to carry out projects in the fall semester. Brown student Yvonne Wingard's research project was titled *The Other Side of Town: An Examination of Residential Segregation and Its Impacts Based on Race and Class.* Tougaloo student John Johnson undertook

a photography/book project while at Brown on the exchange called *Black at Brown* and exhibited his work at Tougaloo in the spring. The BTP also collaborated with the Black Student Union at Brown to facilitate the participation of exchange student Anthony Moore from Tougaloo to attend annual the Black Solidarity Conference at Yale University.

#### Black Lavender Experience

The Black Lavender Experience (BLX) is a theatre and conversation convergence sparked by Queer artists of color. The 2019 BLX was a 4-day convergence of ideas and issues presented through the lens of provocative theatre, dramatic presentations, and conversations featuring approximately 300 participants several of who visited from Tougaloo College.

#### Bonner Community Fellowship

The Bonner Community Fellows, an initiative of the Swearer Center for Public Service at Brown University, combines a students' community engagement interests with their academic and career goals. Participants engage in a weeklong trip to Tougaloo College in their sophomore year to dive deeper into the history of the Civil Rights Movement through engaging with the Tougaloo community, meeting with local activists and touring the Mississippi Delta. This year, 22 Brown sophomores made connections with Tougaloo students during the week-long trip to Tougaloo College in January 2019.

#### Civil Rights Trip at Tougaloo College

The Civil Rights Trip offers Brown undergraduates the opportunity over spring break to conduct archival research and discover the rich history and culture of Mississippi broadly with time spent in the Delta. In 2019, there were four (4) participants who traveled to Tougaloo.

#### Early Identification Program (EIP) in Medicine

The Alpert Medical School's Early Identification Program (EIP) in Medicine offers outstanding Tougaloo pre-med students a route to apply for early admission. The EIP was responsible for 3% of the MD class of 2023. The program provided fee waivers, MCAT waivers, and application support as well as targeted recruiting on Tougaloo's campus. The EIP continues to be a special highlight of the partnership as one of the longest standing active programs between the institutions.

#### iProv Fellowship

The iProv Fellowship of the Swearer Center and Career LAB provides Brown and Tougaloo undergraduate students with a \$3,500 stipend to work full-time in 8-10 week internships with nonprofit organizations based in the greater Providence area. Students are part of a structured and supportive cohort that meets regularly to build skills and competencies for community engagement. In summer 2019, two (2) Tougaloo students participated in the iProv Fellowship. The students engaged with the Childhood Lead Action Project and Direct Action for Rights and Equality (DARE) programs based in Providence, RI.

#### Partnership in Public Health Program

The Partnership in Public Health Program offers Tougaloo sophomores a route to apply for early admission to Brown's Master of Public Health (MPH) degree program. The first early admitted students matriculated in September 2014 and targeted recruitment continues to grow this program.

#### Semester Exchange Program

Founded in 1964, the Semester Exchange Program offers undergraduates the opportunity to study at the partner institution for one (1) semester. This year, two (2) Tougaloo College students and one (1) Brown University student participated in the exchange. Since its inception over 300 students have taken advantage of this exchange program.

#### STEM Exchange

Building on the Symposium hosted by the Science Center at Brown University in 2017, two (2) faculty, Sharon Streeter (Tougaloo) and Parker VanValkenburgh (Brown), began conversations regarding a mapping project of the Bodie Plantation. A follow-up meeting for STEM faculty was convened in 2018 at the Brown University Science Center to build on these discussions.

#### Sigma Xi Honor Society

In 2014, Brown University's Sigma Xi Honor Society chapter began inducting high achieving science students from Tougaloo College. Fifteen (15) students were inducted into the Sigma Xi Honor Society on March 25, 2019.

#### Student Summer Research

During the summer, students have the opportunity to conduct research at Brown through The Leadership Alliance and various departments and disciplines. Brown students may participate in research at The Jackson Heart Study Program and/or conduct independent research in other disciplinary areas at Tougaloo College. As an example, Hastings Williams, a rising senior at Tougaloo College, participated in SR-EIP activities at Brown University for his second consecutive summer, conducting research with Dr. Mark Johnson, Associate Professor in the Department of Molecular Biology, Cellular Biology, and Biochemistry.

#### Summer at Brown

The Summer at Brown Program offers Tougaloo College undergraduates the opportunity to take courses at Brown University during the summer. This year two (2) Tougaloo College students and two (2) pre-college students from the Michelle Obama Early College High School participated in the program. Summer at Brown also provides an opportunity for faculty members at Tougaloo to teach summer courses at Brown. This year, four (4) faculty instructors from Tougaloo College taught courses through Summer at Brown.

## IV. Faculty Exchange Program

This program is designed to strengthen the relationship between the two institutions by building faculty connections. Faculty have offered a single lecture, a series of lectures or workshops or visited with colleagues to discuss teaching collaborations. This year, Dr. Sheila Bonde of Brown University and Dr. Phoenix Savage of Tougaloo piloted a Global History of Art and Architecture course (HIAA 0010) featuring Brown and Tougaloo undergraduate students.

#### **Future Initiatives**

There are a number of future-facing initiatives being explored and implemented through the partnership including The Conversation, a research and discussion-based collaborative initiative between Brown University, Tougaloo College and the University of New Mexico. At the core of this initiative will be a convening of undergraduates, graduate students and faculty from each of the institutions for discussions around issues of race, justice and the law. This forthcoming initiative is planned to be launched in 2020 and is funded by a generous gift by Brown -Tougaloo Council member, Michael Gross '64, P'93 P'05 and his wife Andrea Gross.

Through the partnership, the institutions have begun conversations to consider a joint Engineering program. Dr. Santanu Banerjee (Tougaloo) and Professor Rod Beresford (Brown) prepared plans that are currently being reviewed by curriculum committees at the respective campuses.

#### Conclusion

The Brown -Tougaloo Partnership has provided a rich exchange of culture, scholarship and ideas for over 50 years. This year, close to 50 people participated in programming associated with the Partnership. As we continue this work, we remain enthusiastic about the promise of the Brown - Tougaloo Partnership and look forward to growing and strengthening the connections between the campus communities.

## **Appendix: Campus Partners by Program 2018-2019**

Program Name	Brown University Partner(s)	Tougaloo College Partner(s)
Alpert Medical School's Early Identification Program	Joseph Diaz	Bianca Garner and Wendy White
Black Lavender Experience	Karen Allen Baxter	Kimberly Morgan-Miles and Renita Martin
Bonner Community Fellowship	Betsy Shimberg	Bianca Garner
Faculty Exchange	Shontay Delalue	Bianca Garner
iProy Fellowship	Betsy Shimberg	Detrice Roberts
Civil Rights Trip at Tougaloo College	Francoise Hamlin	Daphne Chamberlain
Partnership in Public Health Program	Caroline Kuo	Wendy White
Semester Exchange Program, Bernstein Scholars Program & Student Summer Research	Maitrayee Bhattacharyya	<u>Detrice</u> Roberts
Sigma Xi Honor Society	David Targan and Geeta Chougule	Wendy White and Bidisha Sangupta
STEM Exchange	Gelonia Dent	Sharon Streeter
Student Summer Research through the Leadership Alliance	Medeva Ghee	Scharri Walker, Bianca Garner, Miranda Freeman, Santanu Banerjee
Summer at Brown	James <u>Chansky</u> & Joi Whitehead	Detrice Roberts



For more information visit:

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