

## **Bush Foundation Donates \$5 Million to Storm Ravaged Historically Black Colleges and Universities in New Orleans and Jackson, MS**

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### **For Immediate Release**

For Additional Information

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### **For Immediate Release**

St. Paul, Minnesota (November 14, 2005) – The Bush Foundation has awarded \$5 million in unrestricted grants to two private historically black universities and a college to support their efforts to recover from the devastation caused by Hurricane Katrina. Dillard University and Xavier University, both in New Orleans, will each receive \$2 million and Tougaloo College in Jackson, Mississippi, will receive \$1 million.

Bush Foundation President Anita M. Pampusch said, “The Bush Foundation has had long relationships with Xavier, Dillard and Tougaloo. We believe that it is very important and necessary for them to continue their important work of developing African American leadership through higher education. We hope that our grant at this time will speed their recovery from the hurricane and its aftermath so that they can return to their critical education missions.”

Although the Bush Foundation’s service area is primarily Minnesota, North Dakota and South Dakota, the foundation has a long-term commitment to supporting the education of African Americans and, in partnership with the Hewlett Foundation (Menlo Park, Cal.), has made grants totaling more than \$43 million to historically black colleges and universities (HBCUs) for over 25 years.

Norman C. Francis, president of Xavier University commented, “Xavier is eternally grateful to the Bush Foundation for its financial support in what is truly our time of greatest need. Over the years we have enjoyed a long standing relationship with the foundation, which has demonstrated its commitment to Xavier’s mission on many previous occasions. This additional support will help us to reopen on January 17, 2006 and allow us to hold a commencement for our College of Pharmacy in May.”

Dillard University is expected to be ready to operate onsite in fall of 2006 but will offer classes on the Tulane campus beginning in January. Tougaloo College is currently offering courses; however many students are in need of tuition, books and clothing. The

institutions will have complete discretionary use of the grant money and may decide to use the funding in their efforts to help retain essential faculty and staff, provide student aid, rebuild damaged facilities and repair equipment.

United Negro College Fund President and CEO Michael Lomax said, “The Bush Foundation’s grant to Dillard, Xavier and Tougaloo deserves the gratitude of not only the three schools that will benefit from it, but of the United Negro College Fund’s entire network of private HBCUs. This grant extends the foundation’s record as a longtime supporter of the nation’s HBCUs and a partner in their minority higher education mission. It will make a crucial contribution to these three schools’ ability to survive, to recover and to return to providing their students with the education they need and deserve.”

**About Dillard University, New Orleans**

Established in 1869, Dillard is a liberal arts institution that awards bachelor of arts and bachelor of science degrees. It had a student enrollment of approximately 2,100. Nearly half of Dillard graduates go on to earn professional degrees.

**About Tougaloo College, Jackson, MS**

Tougaloo College is a coeducational liberal arts institution established in 1871 and has about 1,000 students. It ranks as one of the top five historically black colleges and universities in the number of graduates who earn PhDs in the sciences.

**About Xavier University, New Orleans**

Xavier was established in 1925 and had an enrollment of nearly 4,000 students. It is recognized as a national leader in the field of science education, sending the largest number of African American students on to medical schools. It also has a College of Pharmacy and a Graduate School.

**About The Bush Foundation**

The Bush Foundation is a private philanthropic foundation established in 1953 by 3M executive Archibald G. Bush and based in St. Paul, Minnesota. It is committed to enhancing the quality of life in Minnesota, North Dakota and South Dakota by making grants to nonprofit organizations and providing fellowships to individuals in those states. The foundation’s primary grantmaking areas are human services and health, education, and arts and humanities. Its fellowship programs for individuals are in the areas of leadership, arts and medicine. The foundation also supports out-of-region projects with historically black colleges and universities and fully-accredited tribally-controlled colleges.