



CHAIRMAN

UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

January 22, 2004

The Honorable Rod Paige
Secretary
U.S. Department of Education
Washington, D.C. 20202

Dear Mr. Secretary:

In response to your letter of December 5, 2003, I am pleased to enclose the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's (NRC's) Fiscal Year 2003 Annual Federal Performance Report on Executive Agency Actions to Assist Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs). The enclosed report reflects NRC's continuing efforts to assist HBCUs through our Faculty and Student Research Participation Program. This program is conducted through a Cooperative Agreement with the Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education. As requested, the NRC's annual report was also forwarded to the White House Initiative on HBCUs.

If you have questions regarding this report or the NRC's HBCU Program, please contact Mrs. Corentis B. Kelley, Director, Office of Small Business and Civil Rights, at (301) 415-7380 or CBK@NRC.gov.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Nils J. Diaz

Enclosure: As stated

**U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
ANNUAL FEDERAL PERFORMANCE REPORT
FISCAL YEAR 2003
HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES (HBCUs)**

A. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Goals and Objectives

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission's (NRC's) Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) Faculty and Student Research Participation Program is conducted through a Cooperative Agreement with the Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education. NRC's program enables HBCU faculty and students to conduct technical research and development activities on campus and at Department of Energy (DOE) facilities where a substantial portion of NRC's research and technical assistance activities are performed.

The principal goals of this program are to enhance academic studies in science, mathematics, and engineering, and to increase the number of available scientists, engineers, and related professionals. Participants concentrate on research and development work that directly supports NRC's mission.

Program Activities

During this Fiscal Year (FY), the program continued to focus on assigning HBCU faculty, graduate, and undergraduate students to NRC technical assistance projects at DOE laboratories. The program continues to provide HBCU students and faculty opportunities to work with state-of-the-art research techniques and conduct research in a nationally recognized laboratory. The types of projects in which participants were involved included issues associated with synthesis of precursors and models for the immobilization of technetium nuclear waste; preparation of radioactive source with electrostatic spraying technique; enhancement of graphical user interfaces for codes developed for the NRC; signal processing techniques and circuits that may have nuclear power application; investigating issues associated with implementing wireless measurement and control systems in harsh environmental conditions, particularly with nuclear power plants; and investigation of the possibility of using cardiovascular disease as a model for cancer induced by low-level ionizing radiation. Our emphasis for FY 2004, and beyond, will be increasing the number of student participants.

Total HBCU Awards and Comparisons to Previous Fiscal Year

During FY 2003, a total of \$395,156 was available for the NRC's HBCU Program. The actual amount expended was \$272,288, and involved 17 recipients (11 faculty and 6 students) from 9 different HBCUs. The remaining \$122,868 will be expended during FY 2004 as work is completed for on-campus research projects that were initiated in FY 2003. For FY 2002, a total of \$283,354 was expended for participation by 27 recipients (12 faculty and 15 students) from 9 different HBCUs.

Enclosure

B. SUMMARY OF TOTAL AGENCY AWARDS BY CATEGORY

Attachment A presents the total awards (i.e., amount expended).

C. TABLE OF AGENCY AWARDS TO HBCUs, BY INSTITUTION AND CATEGORY

Attachment B presents a listing of agency awards to each HBCU, by category.

D. AWARDS TO HBCUs AND NARRATIVE INFORMATION

Attachment C is NRC's HBCU recipient list, which includes their major field of study, location of research project, and award amount.



SUMMARY OF TOTAL AWARDS TO HBCUs, BY CATEGORY: FY 2003

1. U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
AGENCY

2. Corenthis B. Kelley /RA/ **Director, Office of Small Business and Civil Rights**
NAME/SIGNATURE OF REPRESENTATIVE **TITLE**

3. TOTAL UNIVERSE OF FUNDS FOR INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION (IHEs)
\$3,170,777

CATEGORY	AWARDS TO IHE+	AWARDS TO HBCUs*	Awards to HBCUs as % of total Awards to IHE
1. Research & Development	\$3,170,777	\$272,288	9%
2. Program Evaluation			
3. Training			
4. Facilities and Equipment			
5. Fellowships, Traineeships, Internships, Recruitment, and IPAs			
6. Student Tuition Assistance, Scholarships, and Other Aid			
7. Direct Institutional Subsidies			
8. Third Party Awards			
9. Private Sector Involvement			
10. Administrative Infrastructure			
11. Other			
Total	\$3,170,777	\$272,288	9%

Nils J. Diaz, Chairman, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission

Agency Head (Typed)

/RA/

Agency Head (Signature)

+IHE = Institutions of Higher Education

***HBCUs = Historically Black Colleges and Universities**