

Saint Louis University
School of Education
PhD in Higher Education Administration

Fall 2017 Written Comprehensive Exam

PART A: Morning Question

INSTRUCTIONS: Please respond to the following question. Type your answer in **14 pt Arial, double-spaced** and use **headings** to organize your response. Put your exam number and the words “Morning Question” at the top of each page. Be sure to **SAVE** often. You have 3 hours to answer the question.

Question

HBCUs (Historically Black Colleges and Universities) were established through the enactment of the Second Morrill Act in 1890. The Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended, defines an HBCU as: “...any historically black college or university that was established prior to 1964, whose principal mission was, and is, the education of black Americans, and that is accredited by a nationally recognized accrediting agency or association determined by the Secretary [of Education] to be a reliable authority as to the quality of training offered or is, according to such an agency or association, making reasonable progress toward accreditation.” According to a New York Times Magazine article, because black students now attend schools that were once not open to their enrollment, the percent of black students who attend HBCUs has declined from 90% in 1960 to 11% as of 2015.

You have recently been hired as the President of an HBCU, a public, coeducational, research university with 12,000 undergraduate and graduate students and located in the southeastern United States. Your University has eight academic units that include the following:

- College of Agriculture and Environmental Sciences,
- College of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences
- College of Business and Economics
- College of Education

- College of Engineering
- College of Health and Human Sciences, including a School of Social Work and a School of Nursing
- College of Science and Technology
- The Graduate College

In February 2017, the President of the United States signed an executive order, establishing a White House initiative to promote excellence and innovation at HBCUs and moving oversight from the U.S. Department of Education to the White House. The responsibilities of the new Executive Director of the HBCU initiative will be to strengthen the more than 100 two-year and four-year institutions across the United States through enhanced planning and development, collaboration with the private sector, participation in federal programs and upgrading infrastructure. You've been invited to Washington with 10 other HBCU Presidents to consult with the New Executive Director. In preparation for your trip and at the request of the Executive Director you are asked to prepare an institutional visionary report that includes the following information.

1. Should the mission and vision for HBCUs be revised? If so, how? If not, why not?
2. What are three academic or social missions important to HBCUs?
3. How should HBCUs market their mission and programs to current and potential students? How should alumni be involved in marketing activities?
4. What sort of administrative functions are important to govern HBCUs?
5. Financially, how do HBCUs budget and pay for their programs?
6. How should HBCUs provide academic, spiritual, and emotional development and growth for their students?
7. What role do you envision for faculty in the academic, administrative, and governance of HBCUs?
8. What are three important legal issues which may impact HBCUs?