Dear Colleagues,

The Office of the President is very pleased to announce the 2015-16 Request for Proposals for the UC-HBCU Initiative. As you may recall, this is a systemwide initiative. It is designed to assist UC faculty interested in developing and encouraging efforts to achieve a more inclusive educational environment of excellence. The goal of the UC-HBCU Initiative is to increase the number of scholars from Historically Black Colleges and Universities completing UC academic doctoral programs. UC faculty grants are available to support HBCU students conducting summer research with UC faculty at a UC campus. Funds are also available to support departmental efforts to facilitate increased applications from HBCU scholars to UC PhD programs. Beginning this cycle, Principal Investigators may include 1/9 (1/12 for UCSF PIs) summer salary to help support their efforts. If such funding is desired, the appropriate salary amount should be indicated on the project budget. As a commitment to valuing faculty diversity work, each of the Chancellors has agreed to provide the salary support for any PI from his/her campus who has been awarded a UC-HBCU grant. If included in the project budget, the support will be provided for the duration of the grant. We hope this will facilitate faculty continuing to undertake this important work to strengthen UC.

Since 2012, UC has hosted over 230 HBCU scholars across 9 UC campuses. There are currently twenty PhD students and three academic master’s students enrolled (and one master’s student has already graduated) across six UC campuses as a direct result of this initiative. As you know, building relationships and cultivating greater enrollment of HBCU scholars at UC are long-term investments. Project progress reports are required of Principal Investigators and program outcomes are evaluated.

To hear from UC faculty how they are involved with the UC-HBCU Initiative please view this short video on the UC-HBCU website: http://www.ucop.edu/uc-hbcu-initiative/index.html

Please share the announcement below with faculty on your campus. Also attached please find a helpful PowerPoint tutorial for faculty who may be interested in applying. The initiative is in direct support of Appointment and Promotion review and appraisal criteria as established in the Academic Personnel Manual:
This effort is also in support of the Diversity Statement, adopted as policy in 2007, by the UC Regents. Thus I want to be sure faculty are made aware of this important opportunity. I appreciate your attention and assistance on behalf of this initiative.

Sincerely,

Aimée Dorr, Provost
Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs

Enclosures