



Friday FACTOID

The Story Behind Trenholm State's HBCU Designation

INSTITUTIONAL RESEARCHERS:

Bridging the Gap Between Data and Decisions

According to the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES), “Historically Black colleges and universities (HBCUs) are institutions that were established prior to 1964 and have the mission of educating Black Americans.” Trenholm State Community College is one of nine two-year colleges to hold this distinction. Other two-year HBCUs in the state of Alabama include Bishop State Community College, Gadsden State Community College, Drake State Community and Technical College, Lawson State Community College, Birmingham Campus, and Shelton State Community College.

It is important to note that Dr. Suresh Kaushik, under the visionary leadership of Trenholm’s past president, Dr. Thad McClammy, initiated the grant-seeking efforts and wrote the initial proposals for **Title III, Part B, Historically Black Colleges & Universities (HBCU) Program** grants from the U.S. Department of Education, which resulted in the College receiving a grant every year since **1988**. Trenholm State spearheaded an extensive effort by five two-year colleges in the Alabama Community College System to get Congressional designation as HBCUs, and Dr. Kaushik’s research of a crucial eligibility-determining factor led to not only Trenholm State becoming an HBCU, but also his work contributed significantly to the other four Alabama colleges receiving those funds annually ever since.

Trenholm State was the first technical college in Alabama to receive a grant under Title III, Part A, Institutional Advancement Program, of the U.S. Department of Education, and later it became the **only two-year college in the nation to receive both Part A and Part B grants under Title III**. Per regulations enacted subsequently, after two years of receiving that grant, the College had to relinquish it voluntarily in favor of keeping its Title III-B (HBCU) grant.

You may access a wealth of information about HBCUs at this site:

<https://nces.ed.gov/fastfacts/display.asp?id=667>

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334.420.4243