

FOR RELEASE: August 16, 1994 CONTACT: Lee Scurry
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MMS SIGNS AGREEMENT WITH
HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES (#40057)

The U.S. Department of the Interior's Minerals Management Service (MMS) today announced an agreement with Saint Augustine's College in Raleigh, N.C., Bethune-Cookman College in Daytona Beach, Fla., and Howard University in Washington, D.C. The Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) calls for MMS to assist the schools in increasing the number of qualified candidates for accounting, auditing and computer science positions with the federal agency.

"MMS needs highly qualified employees for a variety of scientific and technical disciplines," said MMS Acting Director Cynthia Quarterman, "and we look to these Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) as a valued recruitment source.

"Currently, MMS-HBCU agreements exist with 13 schools across the country, benefiting thousands of students and faculty, as well as MMS," she said.

According to the MOU, the participating parties of this agreement will:

- initiate career development and placement activities to facilitate the employment and training of professional accounting, auditing, and computer science students; and
- advance the objectives of the MOU by holding workshops, seminars and field visitations for participating students.

As part of the MOU, MMS will create at least two cooperative education positions for participating HBCU students.

MMS is the Interior Department agency which manages and regulates the nation's natural gas, oil and other mineral resources on the Outer Continental Shelf (OCS), and which collects and disburses revenues from OCS leases and from onshore leases on Federal and Indian lands.

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