

The Jefferson Trust Foundation Interim Report

Aligning High Graduation Rates with Correspondingly High Graduating GPAs for African-American Students at the University of Virginia

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Project Report

1. Summary of the project to date.

The project is entitled “Aligning High Graduation Rates with correspondingly High Graduating GPAs.” The data for this project were collected over the 2005 to 2012 time frame. The project has two parts: The Special Journal Issue; and a book on the early African-American graduates. The strategic positioning in publishing these two is to demonstrate how far the University has come and how well it has succeeded in becoming a leader in advancing the education of African-American students.

I. The special issue of the *Peabody Journal of Education* for which Maurice Apprey is the guest editor has a new publication schedule.

I. Here are the production milestones for the issue after acceptance:

- I. PJE Editorial Review (begins-ends): December, 2013 – February, 2014.
- II. Secondary PJE Review (begins-ends) February, 2014 – March, 2014.
- III. Authors receive initial queries: March, 2014.
- IV. Authors return queries: April, 2014
- V. Publishers receive final rough drafts: end of April, 2014.
- VI. Authors receive proofs: May, 2014
- VII. Issue published: July, 2014

2. Total cost to date of the project.

- I. \$2,000 has been paid to a typist.
- II. \$18,000 has been paid to the book manuscript editor.
- III. The local journal editor, Mark Mones, at the University Press of Virginia, was paid \$750 for the completion of his work on the first draft of papers.
- IV. Copies of the special issue and reprints amounted to \$1250. (The billing for this is in process.)

3. Is the project completed at this time? If not, when do you expect to see the project completed?

There are two parts to the project: a special journal issue and a book.

- I. The journal was published in July: Volume 89 ISSN 0161-956X, 2014.
- II. The publication of the book on the experience of the early African-American graduates of the University of Virginia --*The Key to the Door*--is in progress. The book is under review by University Press of Virginia.

4. If there is available remaining balance, how much do you plan to spend?
 - I. For the book \$10,000 remains for the publication costs.
 - II. This subvention will be requested by the publisher after the external review.

5. Successes coming out of the project.

The answer to this question remains unchanged since the last report to the Trust.

- I. The high graduation ranking has been maintained.
- II. The #1 graduation ranking juxtaposes substantively with the 30.2% above 3.4 graduating cum. GPA.
- III. The #1 graduation ranking juxtaposes substantively with the 51.9% above 3.0 graduating cum. GPA.
- IV. The #1 graduation ranking juxtaposes substantively with the increase in # of Echols Scholars per academic year as one more index of alignment.

6. What problems if any have you faced as you rolled out the project?

I. The early graduates are older now and therefore slow to respond. Nevertheless, all their chapters are in. No new difficulties are anticipated.

7. What was the total number of people working on the project?

I. 5 Deans, 1 typist and 2 editors.

8. Number of students involved:

I. 1291

9. How many people did the project impact?

I. 1291

10. Do you feel that the project has had an impact on the University and/or University community?

- I. The project has raised the esteem of the University on Grounds and promises to do so off Grounds upon publication in a national journal and as a book.
 - I. The President has reported on this project to the Board of Visitors.
 - II. The Dean has reported on this project to the Deans and Directors in the Division of Student Affairs.
 - III. The Dean has reported on this project to the Diversity Council.
 - IV. The Dean has reported on this project to the Board of Visitors.

11. Are there plans for the project to continue once this funding cycle is completed? If so, what are those plans?

- I. Special Journal issue has been published. The book is under review by the publisher. The publication date of the book depends on the publisher.

12. Any other comments that you would like to share concerning this project:

1. Since the publication of the Special Issue of the Journal has been completed and the book is under review, we are beginning to consider a national conference on multi-dimensional advising and mentoring for underrepresented and underserved college students in the summer of 2015. No funding by the Trust is requested at this time.