



Howard's Unrivaled Research

This February, Howard University made history as the first and only HBCU to achieve the prestigious “Research One” (R1) Carnegie Classification. Fewer than 150 universities in our country have achieved the R1 classification, making Howard part of an exceptional and select group.

This achievement recognizes Howard’s growing research capacity and our commitment to tackling society’s most pressing questions through cutting-edge scholarship and technological innovation. With just under \$85 million in research expenditures and 96 doctorate degrees awarded in 2023, Howard researchers are driving solutions to both emerging and longstanding societal problems.

Howard’s reputation as the nexus of consequential research, intellectual exploration and cultural influence has manifested in unprecedented investment. In August of 2024, Howard University’s medical school received a donation of \$175 million from Bloomberg Philanthropies’ Greenwood Initiative. And in 2024, Apple and other technology companies invested more than \$1.4 million to create a one-of-a-kind microchip design and validation laboratory at Howard. The U.S. Department of Defense provided Howard with a five-year, \$90 million grant to create the University Affiliated Research Center (UARC), the first ever at an HBCU.

The University’s R1 status will allow Howard to attract more highly competitive research grants, increased research funding, greater opportunities for collaboration, and top-tier faculty, doctoral students and scholars.

As Howard continues to expand its research capabilities and influence, its impact on higher education and scientific advancement promises to grow even stronger. Sustaining research excellence at Howard will require strong support from people and institutions for many years to come.



“At Howard, we are dedicated to ensuring that the benefits of discovery and progress reach all communities, including those historically overlooked and underrepresented. We are shaping a future where knowledge drives inclusive prosperity and lasting impact.”

President Ben Vinson III, PhD

Giving Back Comes from The Heart

By James and Patricia Davis

James Davis (B.A., '67) and Patricia (Staunton) Davis (B.S., '66) are proud members of our Bison family. They met in high school, have been married for 58 years, live in the DC Area and enjoy traveling.

Patricia's father died when she was in high school, leaving her mother to support the family. They didn't have a lot of money, but Howard offered her a four-year tuition-only scholarship. James worked several retail jobs to pay his tuition. Both pledged in 1965 — James, Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. and Patricia, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

After graduating, the couple married and moved to California where James earned an MBA at Pepperdine University. Later, Patricia earned her MBA at Stanford University, finishing as the first African American to graduate in the top 5% of her class.

Reflecting on their Howard experience, they share:

"As native Washingtonians from the underserved part of town, there were not many doors open to African Americans. Howard was a beacon that said, 'Come to the Mecca, do the work, and you'll be ready for the world.' Howard was transformative — a chance to grow and to see beyond our immediate surroundings. However, we didn't appreciate the quality of the education we received until we left Howard. It became clear that we were not only competitive — we were prepared! Whether in graduate school or in our careers, we stood



"You have no control over where you start off, but you have control over where you end up. You have the responsibility to yourself and to the world around you to learn something and give back to the world."

Patricia Davis

shoulder to shoulder with peers from across the country and held our own."

"Several years into our careers, we added Howard to our budget. Then, we couldn't donate much, but we're proud to say we've been donating to Howard for over fifty years."

"We don't have children, so when we consider our legacy, Howard is near the top of the list. We give back because Howard gave us so much — opportunity, education, community. We want future generations of Black students to have the same chance to dream, grow, and succeed. We know what Howard did for us and want to help other young Black students have the same chance that we did."

Creating Your Howard Legacy

Is as Easy as Signing Your Name

Many of us have assets in retirement plans, bank or brokerage accounts, Donor Advised Funds (DAFs), and life insurance policies. Did you know that you can pass on funds from these accounts by simply signing your name on a beneficiary form? You do not need a will.

A beneficiary designation is an easy way to take care of your family and create a lasting legacy at Howard. You remain in complete control of your assets during your lifetime and if your circumstances change, you can adjust your beneficiaries at any time. Simply request or download a beneficiary designation form from your financial institution and name “Howard” as a partial, contingent, or sole beneficiary. It’s up to you.

Leaving a gift to Howard through your retirement plan, like a traditional IRA, is one of the most tax-wise gifts you can make. Most retirement plans are



taxed differently than other funds. By leaving these gifts to Howard and leaving other less tax-burdened assets to your family, you can increase the value of your estate and do more for your loved ones.

To learn more about this easy and rewarding way to make a lasting difference, return the enclosed form to request our complimentary guide, *Bequests and Gifts by Beneficiary Designation*. Or contact Quina De Laine at 202-238-2518 or quina.delaine@howard.edu.



DID YOU KNOW?

Howard is...

- #1 in sending Black students to medical school
- #1 in greatest opportunities for minority students in business
- #1 producer of Black communications and journalism professionals
- #2 producer of Black law professionals

Save on Taxes While Supporting Howard University

Donating retirement funds is a tax-savvy way to support Howard. If you are 70 ½ or older, you can make tax-free donations to Howard directly from your Individual Retirement Account (IRA). Called a Qualified Charitable Distribution, or QCD, this type of gift reduces your tax bill because you do not pay income taxes on the donated amount. Plus, if you are at least 73 years old, your QCD counts toward your required minimum distribution for the year.

Contact your plan administrator and tell them you would like to make a donation from your IRA to Howard, today.



We're Here to Help

The Howard University Legacy Giving Society is a special group of alumni, friends, and supporters who have left a gift to Howard through their will, trust or by beneficiary designation. If you have included Howard in your estate plans, please let us know. We would love the chance to say thank you.

For more information about how you can make Howard part of your lasting legacy, contact Quina De Laine at quina.delaine@howard.edu or 202-238-2518. Visit giving.howard.edu/ways-give/planned-giving.

This information is not intended as tax or legal advice. We recommend you consult with your financial advisor for information specific to your circumstances.



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