The Board of Trustees and the Presidential Search Committee of Bethune-Cookman University (B-CU) announce the search for the next president of this distinctive, nationally recognized, historically Black university which is located in Daytona Beach, Florida. The institution is named for Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune, a pioneering Black educator, who created opportunities for thousands of young Black students and is being honored as the first African American female with a state-commissioned statue in the National Statuary Hall in Washington, D.C. Her friendship with Eleanor Roosevelt, United Methodist Bishops, and other national leaders won support and national recognition for B-CU. She instituted five core values in the university that have persisted since her founding work: faith, integrity, respect, service and thirst for knowledge.

Bethune-Cookman University is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges, the University Senate of the United Methodist Church, the Florida Department of Education and seven other specialized accreditation bodies that distinguish individual programs.

The University academic program offers 36 undergraduate degrees and 8 Master’s degrees. The largest enrolled programs are business, hospitality management, criminal justice, music, education, health sciences, and engineering. More than 19,000 students have graduated from B-CU and alumni hold positions of leadership in many fields of endeavor throughout the nation. The University offers several high-demand online degree and certificate programs and is currently developing additional programs. Current enrollment is approximately 3700 students, they come from across the nation and several countries abroad.

The University offers NCAA Division I athletics with 7 sports for men and 8 sports for women. B-CU teams compete successfully in the Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference and have won many awards and championships.

The University also has a renowned music program with its highly competitive band and choir that performs across the United States and internationally.

The University seeks a visionary and strategic leader and an individual with a solid reputation for honesty and integrity. The successful candidate must have
impeccable and respected academic credentials and possess a reputation for collegiality, openness, and transparency in relations with all campus constituents. The position requires solid financial acumen and ability to manage the personnel and the financial affairs of a complex institution of higher education. Experience in student recruiting, marketing/branding, fundraising and leadership of an effective fundraising organization by the next president is vitally important to the future of the University. The community expects the next president to be student centered and active in student life. The next president must be an excellent communicator and an effective speaker who enjoys being interactive with the broader community. Candidates are expected to have a broad knowledge of educational issues at all levels of government and community life. The position will require knowledge of regional and specialized accreditation. The president must be able to work with the Board of Trustees and lead in the creation of a collegial environment for all constituencies which is vital to campus morale and success.

The Presidential Profile that contains information about the search is available at www.cookman.edu and www.agbsearch.com.

Candidates for the position of President of Bethune-Cookman University must submit a letter of interest that addresses the issues and attributes outlined in the Presidential Profile, a comprehensive vitae, and five references with phone and email information. Please submit these materials electronically (using MS Word or Adobe PDF) to the Chair of the Search Committee, Rev. Thom Shafer and Dr. Michelle Carter-Scott, Chair of the Board of Trustees, at BCUPresident@agbsearch.com.

Dr. Jim Davis and Dr. Carlton Brown, AGB Search Consultants, are assisting in the search. For additional information, contact james.davis@agbsearch.com or carlton.brown@agbsearch.com. Phone numbers are: 540-539-9415 and 912-247-8661.

Bethune-Cookman University is an equal opportunity institution.