



Pennsylvania Black Conference on Higher Education, Inc.
Since 1970

July 30, 2019

A Message from the President of the PA Black Conference on Higher Education, Inc.
(PBCOHE)

We, the members of the PA Black Conference on Higher Education, Inc., stand with Congressman Elijah Cummings of Maryland, Congresswomen Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez of New York, Rashida Tlaib of Michigan, Ilhan Omar of Minnesota and Ayanna Pressley of Massachusetts, against the most recent verbal assaults on them by the current president. This current occupant of the White House continues to spew vitriol and hate-laced speech which further divides this nation. He must be held accountable for these negative attacks on our nation, in general, and on our duly elected members of Congress who are of color. This president has consistently engaged in racist speech, which clearly indicates his true feelings about persons of color. Moreover, the policies which his administration have put forth, particularly as they pertain to education are yet another indication that he cares nothing about the less fortunate and those who are not Caucasian.

This organization was founded in 1970 to ensure equity and access to higher education opportunities for Black people and others of color in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. For nearly 50 years, we have fought to hold our higher education institutions in this state accountable as it pertains to promoting a fair playing field for our students, faculty and staff of color. Our work is not finished; and, based on the recent events, our organization will be fighting indefinitely against the racist rhetoric and policies coming out of the nation's capital which inevitably will work their way to this Commonwealth. It is not too late for this president to change course. Do what is right and stop the assault on Black and Brown people in this nation. The eyes of the world are on America. We will not allow you to go unchallenged. Your behavior is not presidential and is certainly not becoming of a person who occupies the highest office in the land. We are better than this!

Sincerely,

John B. Craig, Ed.D.
President, PBCOHE