

## PRESS RELEASE

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### **Martin University Receives its First Federal Education Grant**

Indianapolis IN. For the last 30 years, Martin University, the only Predominately Black Institution (PBI) in the State of Indiana, has changed destinies of over 1500 low-income, minorities and persons of color, by making education available to all who can benefit.

For the first time in the University's history, Martin University received a 3-year federal grant totaling \$299,820 under the Minority Science and Engineering Improvement Program.

For implementation of the grant, Martin University will partner with Dr. Andrew J. Brown Academy, a public charter school, to provide an intensive summer professional development program for 32 public school teachers to focus on the Science, Technology, Engineering and Math disciplines (STEM). During the school year, the Academy will conduct Saturday School for its K-8 students, focusing on "hands-on" activities in Martin's mobile lab, provided through this grant. Martin University's faculty will assist in capacity building, teaching and learning strategies that have proven successful with low-income students, and content curricular revision. Additionally, Martin University juniors and seniors will participate by conducting experiments and other relevant service learning activities in the Saturday School at the Dr. Andrew J. Brown Academy.

The objectives of the grant are to 1) increase the academic achievement of the charter school students specifically in the areas of science, math and technology; 2) improve charter school teachers' STEM content knowledge and strategies for effective teaching methodology in the STEM disciplines; and 3) establish relevant criteria, rigor and motivation in the STEM disciplines for the use with pupils from predominately low-income backgrounds.

Martin University is grateful to Congressman Andre Carson, Senator Richard Lugar and Senator Evan Bayh for their commitment and support of education.

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