



Xavier University of Louisiana Receives \$465,000 Grant for Minority Business Disaster Preparedness

New Orleans, LA -- Xavier University of Louisiana, a leader in the field of business and science, has received a \$465,894 grant to help minority businesses better prepare for disasters and their aftermath.

The grant, awarded by the Minority Business Development Agency of the U.S. Department of Commerce, will fund the MBE Disaster Readiness Project, an initiative whose objective is to disseminate pertinent information about disaster preparedness and about obtaining disaster related contracts to minority owned businesses in the United States, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

The project will be managed through the Xavier Division of Business' Entrepreneurship Institute under the direction of Mark Quinn, the Conrad N. Hilton Endowed Chair in Entrepreneurship.

"\$306 billion in clean up contracts were distributed in 2017 and this project is designed to help more minority owned businesses to be in position to obtain some of the disaster cleanup work that is likely to occur in the future," said Quinn. "We are excited to address this issue with the support of the Minority Business Development Agency."

Joe Ricks, Chair of the Division of Business at Xavier, said that the project is another example the Division and the University's commitment to socially responsible business leadership, supporting entrepreneurs, and complementing the activities of our award winning Small Business Development Center."

More information on the MBE Disaster Readiness Project is available by contacting Mark Quinn at mquinn@xula.edu.

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About the Entrepreneurship Institute

The Entrepreneurship Institute at Xavier University of Louisiana is housed in the Division of Business. Its mission is to create a center of excellence in entrepreneurship within Xavier University. The entrepreneurial spirit is the key driver of sustainable business growth, and the true ethos of

entrepreneurship is in full alignment with the Xavier mission, in empowering all people to contribute to our society in positive, humane and lasting ways.

About Xavier University of Louisiana

Xavier was recently ranked as the nation's #2 HBCU (Historically Black College and University) by [College Consensus](#), a unique college ratings website that aggregates publisher rankings and student reviews, in its newly released publication, [Best HBCUs for 2018](#). Xavier was also among the four colleges selected by Beyonce and her [BeyGood Foundation](#) as the recipient of a Homecoming Scholars Scholarship Award announced after her much lauded performance at Coachella, while actor and comedian Kevin Hart has joined forces with UNCF and KIPP (Knowledge Is Power Program) to help 18 more KIPP students earn a college degree – three of whom were Xavier students.

At Xavier *eXcellence awaits yoU*. For more information about Xavier University of Louisiana visit us online at www.xula.edu or follow us on Facebook, YouTube, or Twitter @XULA1925. To book interviews about our recent accomplishments and/or to speak with our experts in the field of pharmacy, education, premed, public health, science, technology, math, business, English, communications and the arts, contact Diana Hernandez at (504) 520-5120 or dhernan1@xula.edu.