FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 19, 2019

QEM FORUM SEEKS TO TURN MINORITY SERVING INSTITUTIONS TO RESEARCH WITH FOCUS ON DEVELOPING FUNDING SKILLS

(BOWIE, MD) In an effort to allow more Historically Black and Hispanic universities to become major players in the highly-respected and lucrative field of research, the QEM Network (Quality Education for Minorities Network, Inc.) is conducting a two-day symposium at Bowie State University, in Maryland. The two-day, symposium called NASA MUSIC Research Funding Information and Networking Opportunities FORUM for MSIs, begins on Wednesday, March 20th and wraps up on Thursday March 21st. It is designed to teach participants how to gain access to funding for NASA programs and federally-funded projects.

“For years, institutions of higher learning that provide educational opportunities primarily to students of color have not engaged in an abundance of research,” said QEM’s president and CEO, Ivory A. Toldson, Ph.D. “Typically, these institutions are under-funded by local, state, and federal sources, and they have to focus much of their money on scholarships and grants for their students. That reduces the amount of money that could support a faculty member who would be focused primarily on research,” he added.

More than 50 staff members representing 21 institutions from 13 states and the District of Columbia have signed up to participate in this symposium. The course work is designed to advance the understanding of Minority Serving Institutions (MSIs) on how to become proficient in developing institutional and administrative support that will enable them to compete at the university level for NASA and Federal funding opportunities.

Educational institutions participating in the symposium is as follows: Bowie State University, Central State University, Coahoma Community College, Delaware State University, Elizabeth City State University, Hampton University, Howard University, Lawson State Community College, LeMoyne-Owen College, Lincoln University of PA, Mississippi Valley State University, Morehouse College,
Morgan State University Team, New York City College of Technology (CUNY), Norfolk State University, Tennessee State University, Texas Southern University, University of Maryland Eastern Shore, University of North Texas at Dallas, University of Texas at El Paso, and the University of Texas at San Antonio. The QEM Network encourages all MSIs to become embrace the opportunity to engage in research. More information can be found at the organization’s Website [http://www.qem.org](http://www.qem.org).