



125 Years of Providing Access
and Enhancing Opportunities

Agenda Brief

Celebrating '1890 Day' on April 23, 2015

National '1890 Day' will be celebrated on all nineteen 1890 campuses on April 23, 2015. In keeping with the nation-wide land-grant mission to improve communities through education, research and outreach, anniversary observance activities will include a health and wellness walk. This event will be broadly publicized in order to enlighten a variety of audiences about this important part of history for this country, the signing of the Second Morrill Act of 1890. Authored by Senator Justin Morrill, a man ahead of his time, it stipulated that African Americans, some 25 years beyond the signing of the Emancipation Proclamation, should be included in the U.S. Land-Grant University Higher Education System without discrimination. Now, 125 years later, nineteen 1890 universities are still providing access and enhancing opportunities for people from all walks of life. Celebratory events will take place throughout 2015, and many of our sister 1862 institutions and BAA colleagues have indicated they wish to celebrate '1890 Day' with us. The actual day of the signing was August 30, 1890 and, as this is a Sunday in 2015, all the campuses will hold 'A Day of Prayer' on August 30, 2015.

While all campuses will participate in a wellness walk for 1.890 miles and seek the participation of at least 1,890 walkers, the accompanying programs will vary by campuses. Administrators, faculty, university and K-12 students, alumni, legislators, community leaders, and members of the community at large will walk together in celebration of the millions of 1890 students and alumni who are brilliant, contributing members of our global society. Will you carve out some time in your busy schedule to grace us with your presence?

The 1890 website, www.1890universities.org will allow credit card donations in the near future, and those who cannot join the walks may wish instead to make contributions. All proceeds will go the 1890 system-wide Justin Morrill Scholarship fund.

To see the continually updated list of celebratory activities and for more information, visit www.1890universities.org.

The 125th Anniversary of the Second Morrill Act Committee