THE MICHELSON INSTITUTE FOR INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

EMPOWERING INNOVATION

Elevating IP Excellence at HBCUs

PRESSING POINTS

REVEALING OUTCOMES



Diversity Gap

Despite making up 13% of the population, Black attorneys represent only 1.8% of IP lawyers—a clear call for change in the IP field.



Grant Impact

\$16.5 million in grants awarded to 23 colleges, including HBCUs and MSIs, to fuel innovation and boost regional economies. NIH is also committed to diversifying its grants.



Patent Power

In 40 years, UC Berkeley has secured 12,000 patents—30 times more than the combined 400 patents from all HBCUs.



HBCU Recognition

Only 11 HBCUs have achieved R2 status as doctoral universities, highlighting a need for greater academic recognition and support.



Inventor Inequality

Only 12.8% of U.S. patent inventors are women. White Americans are 3 times more likely to invent than Black Americans, and kids from top 1% income families are 10 times more likely to become inventors than those from lower-income families.



Boosting Impact

Seven institutions rolled out Michelson IP courses to 200 students each, impacting over 1,400 students and exceeding our goals. While some offered 2 courses, others integrated up to 8!



Survey Insights

Over 700 past MIIP users revealed that African Americans with doctorates strongly support IP protection and feel more knowledgeable about IP after using MIIP materials.

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