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## Xavier and HBCU Business Deans to Ring Friday's NYSE Closing Bell

New Orleans LA – <u>Xavier University of Louisiana</u> Division of Business Chair Dr. Joe Ricks, Jr. and representatives from other Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) participating in the annual HBCU Business Dean's Roundtable, will ring the closing bell at the <u>New York Stock Exchange</u> (NYSE) Friday, June 01.

HBCU business deans from 83 campuses representing 22 states and the Virgin Islands, will hold their 16<sup>th</sup> annual meeting at the Marriott Marquis Hotel in New York City Thursday-Saturday, May 31-June 02. Friday's session will be held at the NYSE and members of the Roundtable executive committee will be on the podium at closing.

Ricks, who serves as president of the Roundtable, said that being at the NYSE will give the Roundtable unprecedented exposure, which they hope to build upon as they endeavor to build the strengthen the brand of HBCU Business schools and programs, and to move the needle on important issues.

The nations' HBCUs currently enroll more than 250,000 students annually.

## 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.

That's just the latest in national accolades Xavier has received as one of the best universities in the country. Most notably, XULA is ranked as the best value among southern regional colleges and universities in the 2018 edition of "Best Colleges" by the *U.S. News* Media Group. Xavier also ranked No.1 in its grouping, heading the list of only 15 schools that qualified for the Southern Region category listed under "Great Schools, Great Prices."

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. Take a moment to learn more about how Xavier is preparing students for the future at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sD4mb-jYZC8. 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.

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