



Smithsonian Institution

National Museum of African American History and Culture

Delegate Magazine 1985

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The Howard University Hospital opened in 1975 replacing the old Freedmen's Hospital. The \$43-million, 500-bed facility is a six-story brick and glass structure standing on 9.39 acres. A primary vehicle for community outreach, it functions as a teaching hospital. The intraoperative radiotherapy department, which began at the hospital, remains the only completely integrated system of its kind in the world. The Cancer Center, adjacent to the hospital, is the only facility of its kind in the nation that conducts comprehensive research into cancer in black Americans.

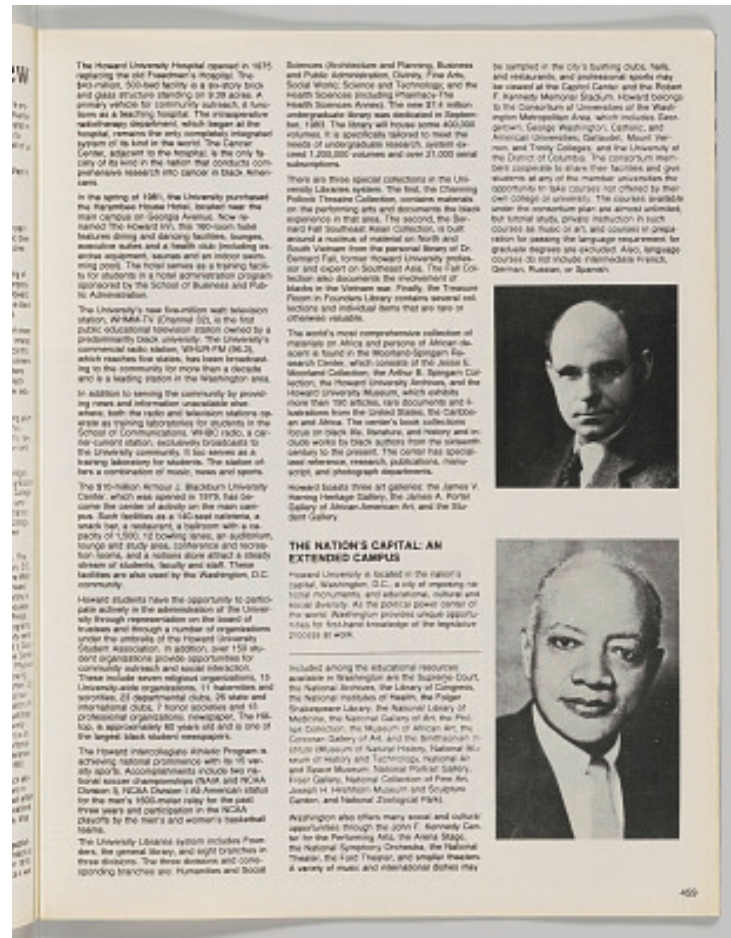
In the spring of 1981, the University purchased the Hirambee House Hotel, located near the main campus on Georgia Avenue. Now renamed The Howard Inn, this 160-room hotel features dining and dancing facilities, lounges, executive suites and a health club (including exercise equipment, saunas and an indoor swimming pool). The hotel serves as a training facility for students in a hotel administration program sponsored by the School of Business and Public Administration.

The University's new five-million watt television station, WHMM-TV (Channel 32), is the first public educational television station owned by a predominantly black university. The University's commercial radio station, WHUR-FM (96.3), which reaches five states, has been broadcasting to the community for more than a decade and is a leading station in the Washington area.

In addition to serving the community by providing news and information unavailable elsewhere, both the radio and television stations operate as training laboratories for students in the School of Communications. WHBC radio, a carrier-current station, exclusively broadcasts to the University community. It too serves as a training laboratory for students. The station offers a combination of music, news and sports.

The \$10-million Armour J. Blackburn University Center, which was opened in 1979, has become the center of activity on the main campus. Such facilities as a 140-seat cafeteria, a snack bar, a restaurant, a ballroom with a capacity of 1,500, 12 bowling lanes, an auditorium, lounge and study area, conference and recreation rooms, and a notions store attract a steady stream of students, faculty and staff. These facilities are also used by the Washington, D.C. community.

Howard students have the opportunity to participate actively in the administration of the University through representation on the board of



trustees and through a number of organizations under the umbrella of the Howard University Student Association. In addition, over 150 student organizations provide opportunities for community outreach and social interaction. These include seven religious organizations, 15 University-wide organizations, 11 fraternities and sororities, 23 departmental clubs, 26 state and international clubs, 7 honor societies and 13 professional organizations. newspaper, The Hilltop, is approximately 60 years old and is one of the largest black student newspapers.

The Howard Intercollegiate Athletic Program is achieving national prominence with its 15 varsity sports. Accomplishments include two national soccer championships (NAIA and NCAA Division I), NCAA Division I All-American status for the men's 1600-meter relay for the past three years and participation in the NCAA playoffs by the men's and women's basketball teams.

The University Libraries system includes Founders, the general library, and eight branches in three divisions. The three divisions and corresponding branches are: Humanities and Social Sciences (Architecture and Planning, Business and Public Administration, Divinity, Fine Arts, Social Work); Science and Technology; and the Health Sciences (including Pharmacy-The Health Sciences Annex). The new \$7.4 million undergraduate library was dedicated in September, 1983. The library will house some 400,000 volumes. It is specifically tailored to meet the needs of undergraduate research. system exceed 1,200,000 volumes and over 21,000 serial subscriptions.

There are three special collections in the University Libraries system. The first, the Channing Pollock Theatre Collection, contains materials on the performing arts and documents the black experience in that area. The second, the Bernard Fall Southeast Asian Collection, is built around a nucleus of material on North and South Vietnam from the personal library of Dr. Bernard Fall, former Howard University professor and expert on Southeast Asia. The Fall Collection also documents the involvement of blacks in the Vietnam war. Finally, the Treasure Room in Founders Library contains several collections and individual items that are rare or otherwise valuable.

The world's most comprehensive collection of materials on Africa and persons of African descent is found in the Moorland-Spingarn Research Center, which consists of the Jesse E.

Moorland Collection, the Arthur B. Spingarn Collection, the Howard University Archives, and the Howard University Museum, which exhibits more than 150 articles, rare documents and illustrations from the United States, the Caribbean and Africa. The center's book collections focus on black life, literature, and history and include works by black authors from the sixteenth century to the present. The center has specialized reference, research, publications, manuscript, and photograph departments.

Howard boasts three art galleries: the James V. Herring Heritage Gallery, the James A. Porter Gallery of African-American Art, and the Student Gallery.

THE NATION'S CAPITAL: AN EXTENDED CAMPUS

Howard University is located in the nation's capital, Washington, D.C., a city of imposing national monuments, and educational, cultural and social diversity. As the political power center of the world, Washington provides unique opportunities for first-hand knowledge of the legislative process at work.

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Included among the educational resources available in Washington are the Supreme Court, the National Archives, the Library of Congress, the National Institutes of Health, the Folger Shakespeare Library, the National Library of Medicine, the National Gallery of Art, the Phillips Collection, the Museum of African Art, the Corcoran Gallery of Art, and the Smithsonian Institute (Museum of Natural History, National Museum of History and Technology, National Air and Space Museum, National Portrait Gallery, Freer Gallery, National Collection of Fine Art, Joseph H. Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, and National Zoological Park).

Washington also offers many social and cultural opportunities through the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, the Arena Stage, the National Symphony Orchestra, the National Theater, the Ford Theater, and smaller theaters. A variety of music and international dishes may be sampled in the city's bustling clubs, halls, and restaurants, and professional sports may be viewed at the Capitol Center and the Robert F. Kennedy Memorial Stadium. Howard belongs to the Consortium of Universities of the Washington Metropolitan Area, which includes Georgetown, George Washington, Catholic, and

American Universities; Gallaudet, Mount Vernon, and Trinity Colleges; and the University of the District of Columbia. The consortium members cooperate to share their facilities and give students at any of the member universities the opportunity to take courses not offered by their own college or university. The courses available under the consortium plan are almost unlimited, but tutorial study, private instruction in such courses as music or art, and courses in preparation for passing the language requirement for graduate degrees are excluded. Also, language courses do not include intermediate French, German, Russian, or Spanish.

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459

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