News Harris-Stowe State University

For Immediate Release

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Harris-Stowe to Host Ferguson-Florissant DESE Training in the Aftermath of the Ferguson Tragedy

ST. LOUIS, MO (August 21, 2014) – Harris-Stowe State University will host the Missouri Department of Elementary & Secondary Education (DESE) in-service training for the Ferguson-Florissant School District in the aftermath of the Ferguson tragedy on Thursday, August 21, 2014, from 10:30 a.m.-5 p.m. in the Dr. Henry Givens Jr. Administration Building Main Auditorium.

Spearheaded out of Jefferson City, Mo., by Commissioner of Education, Dr. Chris Nicastro, DESE has partnered with the Department of Mental Health (DMH) and the Department of Social Services (DSS) in an effort to provide training, strategy and support for staff of area school districts to best serve children who are asking questions as a result of the traumatic events that have taken place since the fatal shooting of Michael Brown.

"It is our mission to properly equip our educators, and we understand many times school personnel are the first to detect trauma in a student. As such, it is priority for us to make sure they get the prompt attention and counseling they need," stated Commissioner Nicastro. "We want to get our children back to school and we are grateful for Harris-Stowe's support in this effort."

"Harris-Stowe is committed to being an intellectual think-tank, and therefore, we are pleased to host this initiative and fully support the efforts of DESE in its goal of providing needed services to the district and community," stated Dr. Dwaun Warmack, president of Harris-Stowe State University.

Harris-Stowe State University, located in midtown St. Louis, is a fully accredited four-year institution that offers 14 degree programs in the areas of teacher education, business and arts & sciences. In 2013, HSSU ranked No. 1 in the state in degree production of African-Americans in mathematics (Missouri Department of Higher Education). The university, which has been in existence for more than 150 years, offers the most affordable bachelor's degree in the state of Missouri.