

For Immediate Release

Contact: Courtney McCall
(314) 340-3391
mccallc@hssu.edu

**Harris-Stowe's Dr. Tommie Turner Accepted to Fellowship Program
and Advocates for STEM**

ST. LOUIS, MO (May 3, 2013) – Harris-Stowe State University (HSSU) is honored to announce Dr. Tommie Turner, director of the Institute for Science and Mathematics has been selected as a Opportunities for Under Represented Scholars (OURS) Program Fellow for the Chicago School of Professional Psychology's Post Graduate Certificate in Academic Leadership online-blended program, which is funded through a \$1.8 million grant from the National Science Foundation (NSF).

The Post Graduate Certificate in Academic Leadership was designed to increase the pool of women in the science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) disciplines who are well prepared in academia for leadership roles in STEM and other institutional positions at Historically Black Colleges and University's (HBCUs).

As director of the Institute for Science and Mathematics, Dr. Turner ensures that HSSU students are supported through effective academic tutoring in mathematics and science. Along with other initiatives designed in collaboration with faculty and staff to enhance the students' collegiate experience, she develops strategies to assist in the retention and matriculation of students in STEM program areas, while serving as a liaison between HSSU units and the external STEM community.

By supporting women of color in the STEM disciplines and helping them to realize their leadership potential, the OURS program helps ensure that students and faculty in these disciplines will benefit from the skills, wisdom, breadth of experience and unique perspectives that such women can provide.

Additionally, in recognition for her numerous contributions to the fields of STEM, Dr. Turner was the keynote speaker at the 2013 National Women's History Month Observance and Luncheon, "Women Inspiring Innovation Through Imagination" hosted by the 1st Engineer Brigade and Maneuver Support Center of Excellence (MSCoE), Fort Leonard Wood, Mo. During her address, she cited female contributors to the sciences and also recognized work that is currently underway to mentor young women on the importance of STEM and discussed programs that are being created to prepare them for the future.

"In order for the United States to remain successful, we must incorporate technological innovation to support economic growth and employment, so STEM is here to stay," said Dr. Turner.

Dr. Turner earned a doctor of philosophy degree in Pharmaceutical Science/Environmental Toxicology from the College of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences at Florida A&M University, a master of science degree in Chemistry from Missouri University of Science and Technology and a bachelor of science degree in Chemistry from the University of Arkansas-Pine Bluff. She is also a member of the Association of Women in Science (AWIS).

Harris-Stowe State University, located in midtown St. Louis, is a four-year institution that offers 14 degree programs in the areas of Accounting, Business Administration, Biology, Criminal Justice, Early Childhood Education, Elementary Education, Health Care Management, Hospitality and Tourism Management, Information Sciences and Computer Technology, Mathematics, Middle School Education, Professional Interdisciplinary Studies, Secondary Education and Urban Affairs. Ranked by *U.S. News* as one of America's Best Colleges in the Midwest, the university, which has been in existence for more than 150 years, offers the most affordable bachelor's degree in the metropolitan area.

###