

Proposal Document

Huston-Tillotson University, the first institution of higher learning in Austin, has a history of supporting education, as well as promoting racial harmony in the Austin community. Because of this dedication to education and unity, the Bahá'í Faith of Austin would like to support these efforts by contributing a scholarship fund of \$10,000.00 to Huston-Tillotson, to be distributed as \$1000.00 a year for ten years. A secondary purpose of the scholarship would be to honor an African American who spoke at Huston-Tillotson in 1920 about the importance of racial harmony. This man was Louis Gregory, a Bahá'í who was also one of the first African American attorneys in the United States. Details of the proposed scholarship follow:

- a. Baha'i funded scholarship of \$10,000 to Huston-Tillotson, in honor of Louis Gregory
 - i. \$500 per semester; \$1,000 per year for 10 years
 - ii. Awarded jointly by a committee comprised of Huston-Tillotson and Bahá'í membership
 - iii. Awarded in the interest of promoting students whose future education and career plans focus on racial justice and equality of humanity (broadly interpreted)

- b. Commemorative event honoring Louis Gregory's speech in 1920 at Huston-Tillotson
 - i. Honor work of Louis Gregory and his contribution to racial unity

- ii. Honor Huston-Tillotson's historical contribution as a progressive institution of higher learning.
 - iii. Further the imperative of racial unity and racial justice, both locally and globally
- c. Conference/Symposium jointly sponsored by Huston-Tillotson University and the Bahá'í Faith of Austin to discuss race unity/racial healing, to be held at Huston-Tillotson University. The purpose will be to facilitate a community-wide dialogue and promote education about this critical topic.