



Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact:

Maya Minter

Maya@DiverseEducation.com

Direct line: 703.385.2411

Drs. Samuel L. Myers Sr. and Wilma J. Roscoe to receive 2017 John Hope Franklin Award

FAIRFAX, Va. — Myers and Roscoe are being recognized for stellar leadership and unparalleled service to the higher education community.

As longtime guiding forces behind National Association for Equal Opportunity (NAFEO) Myers and Roscoe served as pioneering advocates for our nation's Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs).

In addition to his 18-year tenure as NAFEO president **Myers** is an economist, former university president (Bowie College), education advisor and civil rights advocate. In 1995, he incorporated Minority Access, Inc. A nonprofit organization designed to improve higher educational, professional and managerial outcomes for minorities.

Roscoe, served in NAFEO senior management for over 29 years. Under her leadership as Senior Vice President and Chief Operating Officer, (which includes twice serving as Interim President and CEO), she dedicated her professional life to developing and refining a distinct vision for the future of HBCUs. Like Myers, she currently is a member of the Board of Directors of Minority Access, Inc.

About this Award:

The *Dr. John Hope Franklin Award* was created in 2004 to pay tribute to the late Dr. Franklin – a historian, writer, educator, and humanitarian – who made significant contributions to shaping the perspective of American history in the 20th century.

Diverse created the award to institutionalize and celebrate on an ongoing basis his scholarly contributions to the nation. The individuals and organizations chosen are those whose contributions to higher education are consistent with the highest standards of excellence.

This year's award will be presented during a reception Monday, **March 13, 2017 from 5:30-6:30 p.m.** during the 99th annual meeting of the American Council on Education (ACE) in Washington, D.C.

Civil Rights leader and U.S. Congressman John Lewis is also a recipient of the 2017 Award.

The March 9, 2017 edition of **Diverse** will include a tribute to each of this year's award recipients.

For more than two decades [Diverse: Issues In Higher Education](#) has been America's premier source of timely news, provocative commentary, insightful interviews and in-depth special reports on diversity in higher education. Savvy individuals who appreciate the crucial and ever-changing role that higher education plays in the lives of students, professionals, their families, and their communities make reading [Diverse](#) a regular reading habit.

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