



# THE COMPASS



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## HUD Gives ECSU Development Grant

Secretary, Andrew Cuomo, of the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) awarded \$10.4 million to 38 Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) to assist the schools with stimulating local community and economic development. Of the \$10.4 million, Elizabeth City State University's Office of Community Development received \$475,000.

"The schools receiving the grants are key players in HUD's efforts to revitalize America's neighborhoods. We need their involvement because of their location and relationship with their communities," Cuomo said.

HBCU grants are awarded annually on a competitive basis to schools that demonstrate a commitment and ability to produce successful community programs.

The HBCU funds come from HUD's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program, the agency's linchpin for community development activity and an essential ingredient in

community development partnerships, and only HBCUs designated by the U.S. Department of Education are eligible for funding.

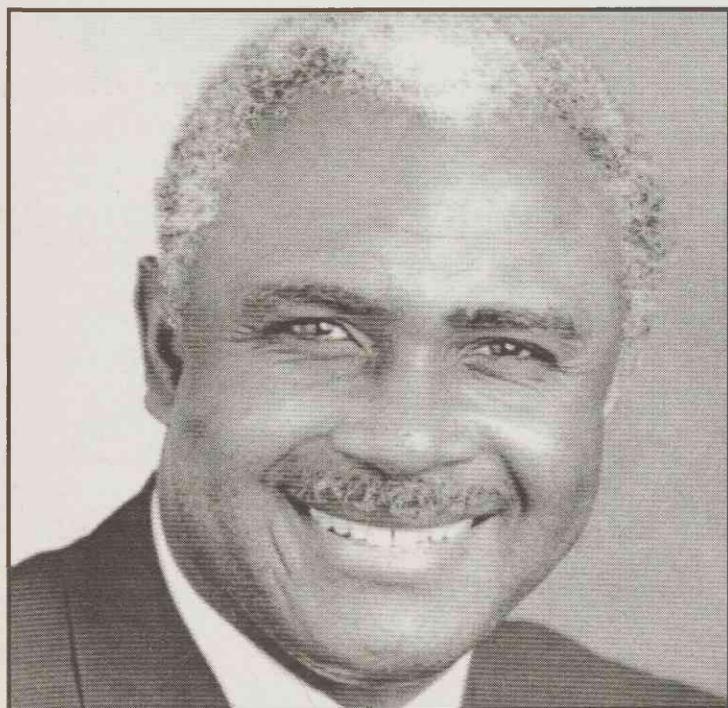
Morris Autry, Director of Community Development at ECSU said the University plans to use the grant to address the housing and community development needs of communities affected by 1999 Hurricanes, expand home ownership and affordable housing opportunities for low and moderate income residents, widen employment opportunities and stimulate economic development in distressed communities. The grant will also be used to provide computer technology and internet access to local disadvantaged residents and assist local governments and community-based organizations in developing and implementing community revitalization strategies.

"These funds will play a key role in continuing the University's mission of providing community development services in our surrounding areas," said Autry.



*The Business and Economics Scholars gathered to collect trash from roadsides and ditches in Elizabeth City.*

*-Photo Courtesy of Chi'Mur Knight*



**Mr. Harvey B. Gantt, speaker for fall graduation.**

*-Photo courtesy of University Relations*

## Political Figure to Speak at Graduation

Heather Malone

Mr. Harvey B. Gantt, co-founder and partner of Gantt Huberman Architects, will be the keynote speaker for Elizabeth City State University's 131st fall Commencement Convocation, which will be held on Saturday, December 9 at 10 am in the Vaughan Center.

Gantt, a native of Charlotte, South Carolina, was the first African American to attend and graduate from Clemson University in South Carolina and the first African-American Mayor of Charlotte. In 1970, he received his master's degree in City Planning from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT).

Gantt is a member of the American Institute of Architects and the National Organization of Minority Architects and was named Fellow of the American Institute of Architect in 1987. He has served on the North Carolina Board

of Architecture and the AIA National Minority Services Committee, and has served as a juror on numerous design awards programs and as a member of the accreditation committees at Howard University's and Southern University's Schools of Architecture. Gantt has also lectured at several colleges and universities, some of which include Hampton, Yale, Cornell and North Carolina A&T.

Gantt has received numerous honors and awards including the Charlotte NAACP Citizen of the Year Award and the Distinguished Service Citation of Public Service from the American Institute of Architects.

Gantt currently serves on the boards of Crisis Assistance Ministry of Charlotte, Charlotte Center City Partners, the Charlotte Chamber and the Central Piedmont College Foundation.