March 2021 Updates

BTU DATA UPDATES: Engagements

Towson University faculty, staff, and students have

294 ENGAGEMENTS with 602 PARTNERS*

*Many engagements address multiple impact areas

144	**164**	**71**	**46**	**53**
High-Quality & Equitable Education Engagements	Strong Neighborhoods & Sustainable Communities Engagements	Lifelong Health & Well-Being Engagements	Vibrant Arts & Cultural Community Engagements	Thriving & Competitive Economy Engagements

BTU PARTNERSHIP HIGHLIGHTS: October 2020–March 2021

▶ **BTU Support & Programming Webinar:** TU faculty and staff convened for a virtual lunch and learn to learn about and discuss BTU resources and programming available for the remainder of 2021.

▶ **Largest Grant Obtained by GIVE:** Through GIVE (Grantwriting in Valued Environments), with the support of a graduate student in Professional Writing, a $52,800 grant was approved for Black Girls Cook, an organization dedicated to empowering adolescent girls of color with self-actualization techniques and life-skills through culinary arts and urban farming.

▶ **Collaborative Towson Community Survey:** As an outcome of the partnership between the Towson Chamber of Commerce and the Department of Mass Communications, a survey was developed and distributed to the Towson community (residents, students, business owners, and visitors) to assess their needs and preferences as they relate to community events and improvements. Results will be compiled in the spring and will impact future plans of the Towson Chamber.

▶ **Supporting Justice-Impacted People in Higher Education:** To continue the work to create a campus designed to support justice-impacted individuals in their pursuit of higher education, a standing committee is being developed to set up a prison-based, credit-bearing higher education program in a Maryland prison.

▶ **Model United Nations Held Virtually:** Students from 21 Baltimore County Public Schools represented 113 countries at the virtual Model UN event, allowing them to develop their writing, research, presentation, and debate skills while expanding their global education.

▶ **Empowering Communities Project Webinar:** In collaboration with ECP, a BTU Investment, a webinar was held with Open Society Institute, the Baltimore Community Foundation, and local, minority-led nonprofits to discuss challenges and changes due to COVID-19.

▶ **Award Winning Election Security:** Through Empowering Secure Elections, a BTU Investment, TU faculty and students developed training modules for local election boards to bolster security. Anne Arundel County used these modules and, as a result, won the Outstanding Innovation in Election Cybersecurity & Technology category of the U.S. Election Assistance Committee's 2020 Clearinghouse Awards.

CONTACT US

🌐 towson.edu/BTU
✉ partnerships@towson.edu

📞 410-704-2678
🐦f @TUpartnerships

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