Fisk University

1. **Where is your institution located?**
   Nashville, Tennessee.
2. **Who or what was your institution named after?**
   Clinton B. Fisk, the Union General who provided the school with barracks to use as its first facilities.
3. **When was your institution founded?**
   1865, but it didn’t accept students until January of 1866.
4. **Why was your institution founded?**
   To help educate freedmen following the abolition of slavery.
5. **Was the institution affiliated with a church at its inception?**
   It was not affiliated with a church directly, but was founded by members of the American Missionary Association.
6. **Was the institution established co-ed? If not, when did it become so?**
   Fisk was always coeducational.
7. **What was/is the academic focus of the institution? If possible, explain when the physics program was created.**
   Fisk was founded to teach freed slaves to read, write and count. However, its curriculum expanded to become a full University by the 1930s, with a wide range of programs. Physics had been established as a department by 1930, when Elmer Imes became the department chair.
8. **Name some influential or well-known alumni from the institution.**

Morehouse College

1. **Where is your institution located?**
   Originally Augusta, then Atlanta, Georgia.
2. **Who or what was your institution named after?**
   Henry L. Morehouse, the corresponding secretary to the American Baptist Home Mission Society, who was a big fundraiser.
3. When was your institution founded?
1867, as the Augusta Theological Society, but became the Atlanta Baptist College in 1897 and Morehouse in 1913.

4. Why was your institution founded?
It was originally a seminary (to prepare ministers and priests), but the curriculum expanded in the late nineteenth century.

5. Was the institution affiliated with a church at its inception?
It was a Baptist seminary, affiliated with the American Baptist Home Missionary Society.

6. Was the institution established co-ed? If not, when did it become so?
Morehouse is and has always been a men’s college.

7. What was/is the academic focus of the institution? If possible, explain when the physics program was created.
The focus was originally on religious preparation, however it has now shifted to “educating leaders for all areas of life,” with various liberal arts and scientific programs. The physics program likely emerged during the reform programs of University President Benjamin Mays in the 1940s.

8. Name some influential or well-known alumni from the institution.
Martin Luther King, Jr., David Satcher, and Paul Q. Judge.

North Carolina Agricultural and Technical (A&T) University

1. Where is your institution located?
Raleigh, North Carolina.

2. Who or what was your institution named after?
Its name was utilitarian, to reflect its mission following the Second Morrill Act, as the school was meant to educate African American students in agricultural and technical arts.

3. When was your institution founded?
1891.

4. Why was your institution founded?
It was a land-grant university created following the Second Morrill Act.

5. Was the institution affiliated with a church at its inception?
No.
6. Was the institution established co-ed? If not, when did it become so?
It was established coeducational, then was restricted to males in 1902, then the restriction was lifted in 1928.

7. What was/is the academic focus of the institution? If possible, explain when the physics program was created.
It was founded to educate African Americans in agricultural and mechanical arts. Its focus has largely remained in the agricultural, mechanical, and scientific spheres. In 1957 its mission expanded to educate teachers. By 1939, Master of Science degrees were offered, so physics was likely a program by this point.

8. Name some influential or well-known alumni from the institution.
Ronald McNair, Clara Leach Adams-Ender, and Jesse Jackson, Jr.

Tuskegee University
1. Where is your institution located?
Tuskegee, Alabama.

2. Who or what was your institution named after?
The town it was created in.

3. When was your institution founded?
July 4, 1881.

4. Why was your institution founded?
It was created as a reparation for the former slave Lewis Adams helping to secure African Americans’ vote for the white Senator W.F. Foster in an election.

5. Was the institution affiliated with a church at its inception?
Classes were initially held in the local Butler Chapel AME Zion Church, but it was not directly affiliated with any religious church or denomination.

6. Was the institution established co-ed? If not, when did it become so?
It is unclear when Tuskegee became coeducational.

7. What was/is the academic focus of the institution? If possible, explain when the physics program was created.
Tuskegee began as a school for the preparation of teachers, however over time its curriculum has expanded to include a broad variety of
academic programs. It is unclear when the physics program was initiated.

8. Name some influential or well-known alumni from the institution.
   George Washington Carver, Lonnie Johnson, and Betty Shabazz.

Morgan State University

1. Where is your institution located?
   Baltimore, Maryland.

2. Who or what was your institution named after?
   Reverend Lyttleton Morgan, first Chairman of the school’s Board of Regents.

3. When was your institution founded?
   1867, and offered its first Bachelor’s degree in 1895.

4. Why was your institution founded?
   Morgan was originally Centenary Biblical Institute, but was purchased by Maryland following the Second Morrill Act and expanded its curriculum to become a “comprehensive” institution.

5. Was the institution affiliated with a church at its inception?
   It was affiliated with the Methodist Episcopal Church in Baltimore, at first.

6. Was the institution established co-ed? If not, when did it become so?
   No, but it became coeducational in 1875.

7. What was/is the academic focus of the institution? If possible, explain when the physics program was created.
   Morgan was originally a biblical institution, then focused on preparing teachers, but following the Second Morrill Act, the school’s focus became to offer a comprehensive and varied curriculum. It is unclear when the physics program was created.

8. Name some influential or well-known alumni from the institution.
   Valerie Thomas, Elijah Saunders, and Earl G. Graves.

Hampton University

1. Where is your institution located?
   Hampton, Virginia.
2. **Who or what was your institution named after?**
   It was named for the town where it was created.

3. **When was your institution founded?**
   1868.

4. **Why was your institution founded?**
   It was created as Hampton Normal and Agricultural Institute, to help provide the many freed slaves near the capitol with “practical experience in trades and industrial skills,” as well as training African American teachers to work in black schools.

5. **Was the institution affiliated with a church at its inception?**
   No.

6. **Was the institution established co-ed? If not, when did it become so?**
   Hampton has always accepted both men and women as students.

7. **What was/is the academic focus of the institution? If possible, explain when the physics program was created.**
   Hampton’s early goal was to help African Americans become self-sufficient and able to function within the limits created by white society, a sentiment that influenced the young Booker T. Washington as a student there. Eventually in the 1950s, graduate programs in Mathematics, Physics, and Chemistry were created.

8. **Name some influential or well-known alumni from the institution.**
   Booker T. Washington, Wanda Sykes and Spencer Overton.

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**Howard University**

1. **Where is your institution located?**
   Washington, D.C.

2. **Who or what was your institution named after?**
   General Oliver Otis Howard, the commissioner of the Freedmen’s Bureau in the 1860s.

3. **When was your institution founded?**
   1867.

4. **Why was your institution founded?**
   It was created by members of the First Congregational Society of D.C. to educate youth in sciences and liberal arts.
5. Was the institution affiliated with a church at its inception?
It was not affiliated with a church directly, but was founded by members of D.C.’s First Congregational Society.

6. Was the institution established co-ed? If not, when did it become so?
It has always been coeducational.

7. What was/is the academic focus of the institution? If possible, explain when the physics program was created.
Rather than focusing on agricultural, mechanical, or applied sciences, Howard claims to have remained a true comprehensive institution, with programs in a wide range of fields, including liberal arts and sciences. It is unclear when the physics program was created.

8. Name some influential or well-known alumni from the institution.

Florida Agricultural and Mechanical (A&M) University

1. Where is your institution located?
Tallahassee, Florida.

2. Who or what was your institution named after?
Its name was utilitarian, to reflect its mission following the Second Morrill Act, as the school was meant to educate African American students in agricultural and mechanical arts.

3. When was your institution founded?
1887.

4. Why was your institution founded?
The state legislature passed a bill creating a white college in Gainesville Florida, but also required a “colored” institution be created as well.

5. Was the institution affiliated with a church at its inception?
No.

6. Was the institution established co-ed? If not, when did it become so?
It is unclear, but Florida A&M University has likely always been coeducational.

7. What was/is the academic focus of the institution? If possible, explain when the physics program was created.
The schools focus has always been in the agricultural, mechanical, and applied sciences. By the 1920s, Bachelor of Science degrees were being awarded, with graduate programs being established in 1953.

8. Name some influential or well-known alumni from the institution. LaSalle Doheny Lefall, Jr. and Leonard Burnett, Jr.