



Presidents' Round Table Newsletter

A National Network of African American Community College CEOs

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A Message from the Convener

Greetings Colleagues,

Let me take this opportunity to say hello to some of you and to welcome our newer members. The fall edition of the PRT newsletter gives rise for me to address you as the new convener. Fortunately, I have had the extraordinary experience of working with Helen Benjamin, Charlene Dukes, Thelma Scott-Skillman and Ken Atwater during the past four years.

The challenges of the 21st century require us all to reconsider some of the most vexing issues of our time. Our unique positions of leadership create the expectation for our institutions and the communities we serve, that we will, in fact, lead through unprecedented and taxing times. Diminishing budget support from state and local sources, increased demand for more accountability (performance funding) and a philosophical shift from policy makers from a position of education as a "public good" to education as an "individual benefit" rocks the very foundation of access and equity we have long enjoyed and supported.

The American Association of Community Colleges' (AACC) recent 21st Century Commission (Commission) report "Reclaiming the American Dream" strongly states that community colleges cannot continue to operate as they have in the past. In fact, the Commission raises a sense of urgency to embrace the "new normal" by re-designing students' educational experiences, reinvesting institutional roles and resetting the system. These broad initiatives are delineated in the form of seven recommendations which are found in the report and in several summary documents on the AACC website.

What is painfully obvious is that the road from open access and student success to student success more focused on a student completion agenda will be anything but simple.

Clearly, the PRT was in some way influential in the Commission's findings based on the fact that some PRT members were involved in the development of the report. I believe we have both an obligation and a wonderful opportunity to provide leadership in adopting and implementing many of the key recommendations emerging from the Commission's report. I challenge each one of you to join me and the PRT executive team in identifying a meaningful and appropriate role for the PRT as we move forward as change agents in the millennium.

Dr. Andrew C. Jones, *Convener*



Dr. Andrew C. Jones

The PRT is an affiliate organization of the National Council on Black American Affairs (NCBAA). Founded in 1983, the PRT is the national organization of African American community college chief executive officers.

Officers

Dr. Andrew C. Jones
Convener

Dr. Charlene Dukes
Secretary

Dr. L. Joy Gates Black
Treasurer

Charlene Newkirk, J.D.
Lakin Institute Coordinator

Dr. Kathryn E. Jeffery
Membership Chair and
Directory Coordinator



HOT TOPIC Federal Financial Aid

Beginning with this issue of the PRT Newsletter, we are introducing a new, regular, feature segment called "Hot Topic" that will highlight areas of interest to our membership.

Recent changes in federal financial aid are having significant impact on student success efforts. Did you know that failure to achieve satisfactory progress not only impacts federal financial aid, but veteran's benefits as well? Please have the appropriate person on your campus update you on some of the crucial changes and what you should know about the new and amended financial aid regulations. Also, join us in Phoenix as we discuss this issue in some detail at the PRT Professional Development session on Saturday, October 27, 2012.

Other issues to watch:

- modifications to the Pell Grant program, including an increase in the maximum grant amount, the elimination of room and board benefits to exclusively distance education students, and the reinstatement of the Ability to Benefit Test and the college course completion qualifier for select career technical programs; and
- two modifications to federal financial aid, including a time limitation on an interest subsidy for new borrowers.

Helen Benjamin, Editor
Linda Cerruti Co-editor/Writer

A Reminder to Plan Ahead for PRT 2012 Activities in Phoenix

The Maricopa Community Colleges and Chancellor Rufus Glasper will host our events in Phoenix, Arizona.



Lakin Institute for Mentored Leadership
October 21-25, 2012 • Fee: \$1,200

PRT Business Meeting and Professional Development Activities

October 25-27, 2012
(Noon October 25 to noon October 27, 2012)
Fee: None

Hotel:

Renaissance Phoenix Downtown Hotel
50 East Adams Street, Phoenix, AZ 85004
(602) 333-0000

Code to use: NCBA • \$139 single or double
For information on the Institute,
e-mail Charlene Newkirk at cnewkirk@ccac.edu

Jones Honored as Citizen of the Year

Grace Jones, president of Three Rivers Community College, was honored as the 62nd annual recipient of the Chamber of Commerce of Eastern Connecticut Citizen of the Year award. The event attracted more than 400 people. Among the recitations of her accomplishments, she was lauded for her handling of the consolidation of two campuses into Three Rivers Community College.

Previously, she was named the Chairman of the Chamber of Commerce of Eastern Connecticut and received the Distinguished Alumna Award from Aurora University. She was also the recipient of the Palmer Davies Leadership Award. The 2009 Connecticut State Conference of NAACP named Dr. Jones one of "The 100 most influential blacks in Connecticut." That same year, Dr. Jones celebrated the publication of *Love Letters from the Harlem Renaissance*, a book featuring love letters from Aaron Douglas to his wife, Alta Sawyer. This book holds special meaning for Dr. Jones as Alta Sawyer is her aunt. Dr. Jones is the author of *Mission Possible – Diversity in Utah*, which was published in *Community College Week* in 1999.




Dr. Grace Jones

Prior to coming to Three Rivers, Dr. Jones was the president of the College of Eastern Utah (CEU). Dr. Jones earned her Ph.D. in organization behavior from the Union Institute (Ohio), her master's degree in community recreation with group work method from George Williams College (Illinois), and her bachelor's degree in physical education from Washburn University (Kansas).

Celebrating Success 2012 Photos

The Presidents' Round Table held its recognition dinner, Celebrating Success, on April 22, 2012, in Orlando, FL. Among the honorees were 2012 retirees Dr. Thelma Scott-Skillman and Dr. Vernon Crawley; Convener's Award recipients Dr. Belle Wheelan and Dr. Eileen Baccus; and outgoing PRT officers. Also recognized were the new 2012-14 PRT officers. To view a pictorial collage of honorees and events of that evening, click on the following link:

 [Double-click on the paperclip symbol to view. It may take a moment to open.](#)

New Interim Chancellor for Central Louisiana Technical Community College (LA)



Dr. Michael Elam

The Louisiana Community and Technical College System (LCTCS) Board of Supervisors approved the appointment of Dr. Michael Anthony Elam as interim chancellor of Central Louisiana Technical Community

College, effective February 15, 2012. Dr. Elam will be the college's first chancellor under the Central Louisiana Technical Community College banner.

Elam comes to Central Louisiana Technical College after serving as interim chancellor at Sowela Technical and Community College. Prior to that, he served as the sixth president of College of the Mainland in Texas City, Texas.

Elam earned his bachelor's and master's degrees from Howard University. His doctorate in higher educational leadership was conferred by Nova Southeastern University.

Gordon Named Provost at St. Petersburg College Campus (FL)



Dr. Kevin Gordon

Dr. Kevin Gordon was named provost of the Downtown and Midtown campuses of St. Petersburg College on November 28, 2011. Prior to his appointment, Gordon served as the principal of Gibbs High School in St.

Petersburg where he is credited with leading staff in helping students achieve impressive gains. Gordon began his career as a public school teacher and served as principal of an elementary school and a middle school. He earned a bachelor's degree in economics from Florida State University, a master's degree in educational leadership from the Nova Southeastern University, and doctorate degree in educational leadership from the University of South Florida.

New President at Lassen Community College (CA)



Dr. Marlon Hall

The Lassen Community College (LCC) governing board unanimously selected Dr. Marlon Hall as the new superintendent/president, effective July 1, 2012. Dr.

Hall began his career at West Hills College Coalinga in 2001 as an English faculty member and the assistant men's basketball coach. He served as the associate dean of educational services at West Hills College Lemoore before moving in 2011 to his most recent position as vice president of student services at West Hills College Coalinga, CA.

Dr. Hall is a graduate of West Hills College Coalinga and was alumnus of the year in 2010. He holds a doctorate in educational leadership and change with an emphasis on community college leadership.

McLeod Selected Provost at St. John's River St. Augustine Campus (FL)



Dr. Gregory McLeod

Dr. Gregory McLeod, selected as provost at St. Johns River State College's St. Augustine campus, said he believes in helping students discover

what they want to do and how to get there. He comes from a background of teaching ranging from K-12 to college, as well as college administration including the seven years at St. Petersburg College, where he held various administrative posts.

Dr. McLeod earned his bachelor's degree at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, his master's degree at North Carolina State University, and his doctoral degree at Barry University.

Miller New Chancellor for Baton Rouge Community College (LA)

The Louisiana Community and Technical College System (LCTCS) Board of Supervisors named Andrea Lewis Miller, Ph.D., as the chancellor of Baton Rouge Community College (BRCC). Dr. Miller has



Dr. Andrea Miller

more than 20 years of experience in higher education, serving previously as the chancellor of Sowela Technical Community College in Lake Charles from 2002 through June 2011.

Prior to serving at Sowela, Miller served as the provost/executive vice president for academic affairs, administration and planning at Southwest Tennessee Community College. She also served for two years as interim vice president for academic and student affairs at Shelby State Community College.

Miller earned her doctorate and master's degree in cell and developmental biology from Atlanta University and received a postdoctoral fellowship from the Department of Anatomy at the University of Cincinnati College of Medicine.

Moore Named Chancellor of Ventura County Community College District (CA)

Jamillah Moore, president of Los Angeles City College, has been named chancellor of the Ventura County Community College District, and will oversee Moorpark, Oxnard and Ventura colleges. Moore brings experience in accreditation issues to the district. Before going to Los Angeles City College, she also worked in the state community college chancellor's office and served as interim president at Compton College.



Dr. Jamillah Moore

Moore earned her doctorate in international and multicultural education from the University of San Francisco. She earned her bachelor's degree in communication and a master's in intercultural communication and public policy from California State University Sacramento.