



Presidents' Round Table Newsletter

A National Network of African American Community College CEOs

Inside this Issue:

The White House Summit **1-2**
 PTR Fall Business Meeting **3-4**
 PTR and NCBA **5**
 New CEO Institute **6**
 A Brief History of Historically Black Community Colleges in Alabama **7**
 Kudos **9**
 CEO Appointments **10**

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. Helen Benjamin, Convener
- Dr. Andrew Jones, Secretary
- Dr. Thelma Scott-Skillman, Treasurer
- Dr. Charlene Dukes, Lakin Institute Coordinator
- Dr. Ken Atwater, Membership Chair and Directory Coordinator

The PRT newsletter is published three times a year

Helen Benjamin, Editor/Writer
 Contributors to this issue

- Dr. Constance Carroll
- Dr. Charlene Dukes
- Dr. Andrew Jones
- Dr. Adena Loston
- Dr. Gordon May
- Dr. Joe Seabrooks
- Dr. Marian Shivers
- John Wilcox (HCCS)
- Dr. Russell Davis

The White House Summit on Community Colleges

by Dr. Constance Carroll, Chancellor, San Diego Community College District

On Tuesday, October 5, I, along with nine other members of the Presidents' Round Table (PRT), had the honor of attending the White House Summit on Community Colleges, a truly historic event affecting our segment of higher education. In order to emphasize the role and importance of community colleges in addressing the challenges and problems of 21st century America, President Barack Obama lent the full attention of the Administration to an agenda for the nation's two-year institutions in an unprecedented summit that brought together 150 people across the nation for a daylong discussion.

The following PRT members participated in the summit: Dr. Jerry Sue Thornton (President, Cuyahoga Community College District, OH); Dr. Helen Benjamin (Chancellor, Contra Costa Community College District, CA); Dr. Zelema Harris (Chancellor, St. Louis Community College, MO); Dr. Ron Williams (Vice President, The College Board); Dr. Myrtle Dorsey (Chancellor, Baton Rouge Community College, LA); Dr. Charlene Dukes (President, Prince George's



Dr. Jill Biden and President Barack Obama open the summit meeting.

Community College, MD); Dr. Walter Bumphus (Professor and Chair, Department of Educational Administration, The University of Texas at Austin); Dr. Helen McAlpine (President, Drake State Technical College, AL); and Cheryl Hyman (Chancellor, Chicago City Colleges, IL).

Other attendees included community college presidents, association directors, faculty members, trustees, and students from community colleges throughout the nation. The group was both diverse and knowledgeable, representing varied interests and geographical regions. Everyone was, I think,

(continued on page 2)



Thornton, Benjamin, Harris, Williams, Dorsey, Carroll, Dukes, and Bumphus pose for photo at end of breakfast meeting held at AACC offices prior to the summit offices.

exhilarated by the prospect of collaborating at this level of national involvement, and everyone brought a positive and constructive spirit to our work together that day.

The summit chair was Dr. Jill Biden, wife of Vice President Joe Biden, who is a community college educator. President Obama opened the summit with a speech calling upon community colleges to assist the Administration in reaching a number of goals that are critical to America's economy, workforce development, and services to a diverse population. He indicated that the Administration viewed the summit as an important step in this regard, and that other partners in the process, such as foundations and the legislature, would be called upon to fund and support our progress together. The President's intention is to utilize community colleges in "the goal of having the best educated, most competitive workforce in the world by the end of the year 2020"... especially since "nearly eight in ten new jobs will require higher education or workforce training."

Dr. Biden summarized the support that would be provided in impressive terms. "In the coming months, we (the Administration) will announce the first \$500 million of a \$2 billion, four-year investment in community colleges authorized by Congress and signed into law on March 30th. This federal investment will support new state-of-the-art education, training and skills development programs to help Americans re-enter the job market." This investment also includes recent efforts to improve and expand federal financial aid for students.

The opening plenary session was followed by six smaller breakout sessions, most of which were chaired by either Cabinet members or other prominent members of the Administration, focusing on the following topics:

Pathways to Baccalaureate – The role of community colleges in university transfer and in innovative practices resulting in the baccalaureate degree.

Increasing Community College Completion – This topic is part of the growing concern regarding student success and completion, including the metrics and support mechanisms necessary to track and ensure student completion.

Affordability: Financial Aid to Community College Students – This session explored the continuing effort to simplify the financial aid process and increase benefits.

Community Colleges in the 21st Century – This discussion involved future directions to ensure that community colleges address the learning and technology needs of the new century.

The Importance of Community Colleges to Veterans and Military Families – I attended this breakout session during which we discussed the broad range of programs that are provided by districts such as mine to serve both the active military and veteran students and their families. Our session was chaired by Admiral Michael Mullen, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and resulted in the identification of new directions and collaborative efforts that can be developed to meet the broad range of needs that were identified.

Industry-Community College Partnerships – This was a discussion group that recognized the importance of partnerships with business and industry in preparing the workforce.

The summit ended with reports from the breakout sessions followed by a reception in Blair House hosted by Vice President Joe Biden and Dr. Jill Biden. Dr. Biden reminded us at the end that she was a professor and that we now had homework to do. Personally, I welcome that prospect because, too often, meetings end without a sense of direction, with just memories of a wonderful time had by all. In this case, however, I realize that our work is just beginning as we follow up on the day's discussions and form working groups at our own institutions, states, and regions. The White House Summit on Community Colleges was truly a remarkable experience.



Two of the students participating in the summit were Catherine Cornish, a graduate of Anne Arundel Community College in Maryland, and Michael Rice, a student at Ivy Tech in Indiana.

PRT Fall Business Meeting and Professional Development Activities Yields Positive Results

During the fall meeting in Houston on October 15 and 16, about thirty PRT members participated in a variety of activities over the two-day period. Friday activities included the following: a luncheon mentoring session with Lakin Institute participants, the business meeting, and a banquet honoring participants in the PRT and NCBAAs institutes. Professional development activities on Saturday at the offices of the Houston Community College System included discussions on Haiti, the Minority Male Initiative, and the national completion agenda. To that end, members committed to urging their boards to sign on to the College Completion Challenge: A Call to Action at <http://www.aacc.nche.edu/About/Pages/calltoaction.aspx>.

Congressman Al Green spoke to members at the culminating meeting on Saturday evening about the important role of community colleges in fulfilling the national agenda of providing an educated workforce and increasing the number of certificate and degree holders in the U.S.



Congressman Al Green poses with (from left to right) Dr. William Harmon, President, HCC Central College; Dr. Betty Young, President, HCC Coleman College; Dr. Art Tyler, HCC Deputy Chancellor; Dr. Helen Benjamin, PRT convener; Dr. Gordon May, President, Oakland CC, Highland Lakes Campus; Congressman Al Green; Dr. Mary Spangler, HCC Chancellor; Dr. Joe Seabrooks, President, Metropolitan CC, Blue River; Dr. Jowel Laguerre, President, Solano CC; Dr. Sharon Blackman, Vice Chancellor, Educational Affairs, Dallas CCCD; Dr. Sharon Miller, President, Polk CC; and Dr. Charlene Dukes, President, Prince George's CC.

PRT Offers Support for Haiti Tech

By Dr. Gordon May

Dr. Jowel Laguerre (Superintendent/President, Solano Community College) and Dr. Robert Adams (President, Merritt College) made a passionate presentation on the plight of Haiti following the massive earthquake on January 12, 2010. Drs. Laguerre and Adams focused much of their presentation on the needs of Haiti Technical College (HTC) and how logical it seemed for the Presidents' Round Table (PRT) to support this college. Opened in 1998, HTC has operated with no governmental support. Their faculty (trained in Miami, FL) focus mostly on contract education, teaching programs in Computer Science, Accounting, and Construction. Considering they receive no financial support from the Haitian government and that their economy is depressed, HTC has been able to maintain a modest tuition of \$2,400 for a two-year degree program and \$1,200 for a one-year certificate program for their 200-400 students.



In a unanimous vote, PRT members supported sponsoring the HTC President and one other employee to attend the 2011 AACC Convention in New Orleans, LA. In New Orleans, the HTC story can be told by individuals who know it best. The goal will be to garner as much support as possible from the AACC and its member institutions to help ensure future opportunities for Haitian students through the Haiti Technical College.

Dr. Laguerre, a native of Haiti, will visit his home country in February 2011. He invites Presidents' Round Table members to join him to see first-hand the enormous needs of our brothers and sisters there.

Book Project Nears Completion

By Dr. Joe Seabrooks

On Friday, October 22, 2010, in "The Conspiracy Room" at Hotel Za Za in Houston, Texas, an update was provided regarding the PRT book project, *The Chocolate Truth: Narratives of Community College CEOs*. The project has a three-fold goal of (a) presenting an unfiltered resource for aspiring and current community college CEOs; (b) elevating the profile of the PRT; and (c) generating revenue for the organization. Remarkable progress has been made. All entries have been edited and the first draft of the book has been completed. The following members have submitted entries for inclusion in the book.

Helen Benjamin, Doug Chambers, Larry Cot, Larry Cox, Ned Doffoney, Charlene Dukes, Marie Gnage, Erma Johnson-Hadley, Andrew Jones, Jowel Laguerre, Wright Lassiter, Gordon May, DeRionne Pollard, Joe Seabrooks, Thelma Scott-Skillman, Ernest Thomas, Debraha Watson, Jennifer Wimbish

Next steps in the project include pursuing copyright for the entire book rather than for individual entries for cost efficiency; and either retaining an agent to shop the manuscript or searching for a publisher independently. Submissions may be altered based on recommendations of the publisher. It was agreed that authors would not be acknowledged on individual entries.

Publishing contacts are being sought. If you have relationships with publishers, please send those contacts to Joe's attention at Joe.Seabrooks@mccck.edu as soon as possible.

(PRT Fall Business Meeting continued on page 4)

PRT Fall Business Meeting

(continued from page 3)

Minority Male Initiative Makes Progress

By Dr. Andrew Jones

Considerable progress has been made by the Presidents Round Table (PRT) Minority Male Initiative (MMI) Committee since the April 2010 meeting. The committee was charged with identifying (1) existing promising scalable, replicable and sustainable practices that support and nurture minority male academic achievement; and (2) strategies that support the transition of minority males through K-12 and associate degree level programs that put them on track to achieve baccalaureate degrees. The committee has current representation from the north central, western, middle states and southern regions.

Accomplishments, thus far, include the following:

- commissioning of concept paper and funding template completed in mid-October;
- assignment and recruitment of participating colleges;
- establishment of a connection between the PRT's AACC board members and MMI co-chairs with the AACC Volunteer Framework of Accountability Taskforce and the appropriate AACC commission agenda;
- development of a strategic overview document.

Among other activities, the committee is currently engaged in submitting funding proposals to major corporations and planning an MMI student leadership conference for spring 2012. PRT members serving on the committee are Dr. Jennifer Wimbish (TX), Dr. Charlene Dukes (MD), Art Tyler (TX), Dr. George Swan (MI), Dr. Sharon Blackmon (TX), and Dr. Andrew Jones (TX).



Pictured left to right are Dr. Elaine Johnson Copeland, president, Clinton Junior College; Dr. Adena Williams Loston, president, St. Philip's College; and Dr. Helen T. McAlpine, president, J.F. Drake State Technical College.

PRT Members Participate in HBCU Week Conference in D.C.

Seven PRT members participated in the 2010 National Historically Black Colleges and Universities Week conference in Washington, D.C. from September 12-14. According to Dr. John Wilson, Jr., Executive Director of the White House Initiative on HBCUs, for more than 20 years, the conference "has been an important platform on which to identify, discuss and continue to meet the challenges associated with HBCU capacity enhancement". This year's theme, "Moving toward HBCU Cathedrals", focused on HBCUs having both *capacity* and *character* pre-eminence.

Of the 106 colleges and universities identified as HBCUs, 14 are community/junior colleges. The conference emphasized the role of HBCUs in achieving the goal for America established by President Obama and Secretary Duncan of having the best educated and most competitive and diverse workforce in the world by 2020. To that end, \$85M has recently been allocated to HBCUs. Of the 106 colleges and universities identified as HBCUs, 14 are community/junior colleges. Of the 14, 11 are public institutions.

Other PRT members in attendance include Dr. James Lowe, president, Bishop State College; Mr. Sam Munnerlyn, president, Trenholm Technical College; Dr. Ray Belton, president, Southern University at Shreveport; Dr. Vivian Presley, president, Coahoma Community College; Dr. Michael Townsend, Sr., president, Denmark Technical College; and Dr. Keith Grant, president Lewis College of Business.

U.S. Secretary of Education Visits Merritt College



Secretary Duncan is pictured with Peralta CCD Chancellor Wise Allen, Congresswoman Barbara Lee of the 9th Congressional District, and Merritt College president, Dr. Robert Adams. The Secretary participated in an educational summit on September 10, 2010 to discuss Merritt's Maximum Achievement Project (MAP), and how it has improved grades, increased self-esteem and changed the lives of its participants. The program is designed for African American males and other students. "Merritt's MAP program shows the best in community college education," remarked Secretary Duncan, "we might even try to replicate this approach in K-12 education, as well."



NCBAA and the Presidents' Round Table thank DiCarlos Davis of TMA Risk Management Services for their sponsorship of the reception for the closing banquet of the Lakin and Midlevel Institutes

PRT and NCBA Leadership Institutes Join Forces to Prepare Leaders

Forty-five individuals desiring greater responsibility as leaders in community colleges converged on Houston, Texas from October 10 - 16, 2010. Hosted by the Houston Community College System where Dr. Mary Spangler serves as chancellor, the **Thomas Lakin Institute for Mentored Leadership** (sponsored by the Presidents' Round Table) and the **Midlevel Leadership Institute** (sponsored by National Council on Black American Affairs) provided a variety of leadership activities for their respective participants. Holding the institutes at the same location and in the same time period allows the sharing of resources and provides a richer experience for the participants. The Presidents' Round Table and NCBA send a very special thank you to the host college represented by Art Tyler, Dr. Sabrina Lewis, Dr. Cheryl Sterling, and a great team of supporters.

17th Annual Lakin Institute

The Lakin Class of 2010 consisted of 11 members who have served students, colleges, and communities for decades and now are preparing themselves to seek the helm of leadership at one of the nation's 1200 community and technical colleges. This year's mentees were Dr. Tyrone Bledsoe, Sr., of the Student African-American Brotherhood; Dr. Lawrence Bradford, Los Angeles City College; Dr. Lewis Burke, Jr., Bowling Green Technical College; Dr. Lorenzo Esters, Association of Public and Land-Grant Universities; Mr. Sylvester Pace, Negro Educational Emergency Drive; Dr. George Railey, Jr., Chabot College; Mr. James Shippy, Houston Community College; Dr. Patricia Sims, J.F. Drake State Technical College; Ms. Gloria Walker, Texas Southern University; Ms. Lynette Woods, Bermuda College; and Ms. Millicent Woods, Texas Southern University. As a show of gratitude, this year's class made a \$1000.00 scholarship contribution to the 2011 institute.



2011 Lakin mentees



Retired PRT members Dr. Homer Franklin and Dr. Chuck Green joined in the PRT activities.

A series of workshops, conversations, and sessions were designed to enhance the participants' knowledge of the role of the chancellor/president in today's community colleges, the joys and challenges of leadership, and the commitments that are critical to making courageous decisions that keep students at the heart of institutional missions. Presenters included Dr. George Boggs, retiring CEO of the American Association of Community Colleges; Dr. Jamillah Moore, Dr. Audre Levy, Dr. Linda Thomas Glover, Dr. Michael Elam, Dr. Joseph Seabrooks, Dr. Art Tyler, Dr. Ron Wright, Dr. Narcisa Polonio, and Dr. Tonjua Williams. This year's Institute was coordinated by Drs. Charlene Dukes, Charlene Newkirk, and Andrew Jones.

Lakin Institute Coordinators



Dr. Charlene Dukes



Dr. Andrew Jones



Dr. Charlene Newkirk

Plan now for the Lakin Institute and Presidents' Round Table meetings in the future!

2011 Detroit, MI
Hosted by Wayne County Community College District

2012 Phoenix, AZ
Hosted by Maricopa Community Colleges

2010 Midlevel Institute Scholars

Shontell Blake (Baton Rouge CC, LA)
Jothany Blackwood (Fresno City CC, CA)
Debra Bright (Montgomery CC, MD)
William Brown (Naugatuck Valley CC, CT)
Loretta Canto-Williams (Los Medanos College, CA)
Vonic Champ (Mountain View College, TX)
Kenneth Clarke (Paradise Valley CC, AZ)
Jerome Countee, Jr. (Prince George's CC, MD)
Temesha Corbin Christian (Cincinnati State Tech & CC, OH)
Valschkia Dabney (Blinn College, TX)
Lorlie Ellis (Houston CC, TX)
Vickie Ferguson (Contra Costa CC, CA)
Bernard Gantt (Bronx CC, NY)
Kasey Hall (Cincinnati State Tech & CC, OH)
Marvin Harris (Lansing CC, MI)
Tony Hawkins (Montgomery College, MD)
Destina Howard (Cincinnati State Tech & CC, OH)
Carolyn McBride-Davis (Houston CC, TX)
Rhena McCaskill (CC of Allegheny County, PA)
Kimberly McNair (Howard CC, MD)*
Cindy Patterson (CC of Allegheny County, PA)
Roger Ramsammy (Palm Beach State College, FL)
Clevette Ridguard (Montgomery College, MD)*
Kenneth Robinson (North Orange County CCD, CA)
Kristina Scott (Maricopa Skill Center-Gateway CC, AZ)
LaTonya Scott (Baton Rouge CC, LA)
Stacy Shears (Diablo Valley College, CA)
Desira Stewart Baltimore City CC, MD)
David Taylor (Bronx CC, NY)
Brenda Teal (Prince George's CC, MD)
Lisa Tittle (Harford CC, MD)*
Kenyetta Tribble (Contra Costa CC, CA)
Ja Hon Vance (Baltimore City CC, MD)
Denise Zackery (LeCroy Center-DCCCD, TX)

*Morgan State University, Community College Leadership Doctoral Program

Ninth Annual Midlevel Leadership Institute

6

Thirty-four individuals, an unusually high number which exceeded the goal of 20-25, were admitted to the institute, led by Dr. Marian Shivers. The group included 10 men and 24 women who represented 17 community college districts from Florida to California and two four-year institutions. One of the four year institutions, Morgan State University, through its Community College Leadership Doctoral Program supported the participation of three of its doctoral students.

The scholars "hailed" this institute as one of the most relevant, meaningful and uniquely appropriate to their needs as community college leaders and administrators. They were particularly appreciative of the opportunity to meet and hear African American administrators, presidents, chancellors and CEOs who had taken the "journey" and been successful. They showed their appreciation by making a \$500.00 scholarship contribution for the 2011 institute. Several indicated that this experience had been life changing as well as sustaining. All indicated that the opportunity for networking was invaluable. The scholars left the institute charged up and focused on achieving their individual goals while making the most of their leadership skills and opportunities.



2010 Midlevel Institute Scholars with Dr. Marian Shivers, dean of the institute

New CEO Institute a Success!

On the recommendation of its membership committee, the PRT hosted its first CEO Institute class in October in Houston, Texas. Distinguished Lecturer, California State University at Fullerton and past Superintendent/Chancellor, Dr. Jerome Hunter, led the class of new presidents. Dr. Russell A. Davis, President, Gloucester County College, assisted Dr. Hunter.

The CEO Institute was designed to allow participants an opportunity to engage in dialogue with esteemed leaders and presenters, while offering their own experiences and sharing insights from their own individual campuses. Topics included Board/CEO relations, finance and fundraising, forming teams, pitfalls of the presidency and hot topics in higher education and on community college campuses.

Dr. Helen Benjamin and Dr. Art Tyler offered the class outstanding presentations, and several PRT veterans visited the class offering their own pearls of wisdom and shared experiences. The program culminated in a star-studded student presentation, where attendees of the NCBA Mid-Level Managers Institute and the Lakin Institute displayed their talents and lessons learned, and CEO class participants were recognized for program completion. Participants included: Dr. Michael Elam, College of the Mainland, Texas; Dr. Sandra Robinson, Wayne County Community College District, Michigan; Dr. Marshall Washington, Harrisburg Area Community College, Pennsylvania; Dr. Linda Thomas-Glover, Eastern Shore Community College, Virginia; Dr. Michael Townsend, Denmark Technical College, South Carolina; Dr. Jowell Laguerra, Solano Community College, California; Dr. Jannett Jackson, College of Alameda, Peralta Community College District, California.

CEO participants represent new community college presidents/chancellors who are within the first and third year of their presidencies. PRT members are invited to attend the Institute at no cost, and non-members are invited for a nominal fee. We are already looking for our class of 2011. See you next year!



A Brief History of Historically Black Community Colleges in Alabama

By Dr. Perry Ward

(Read the full article at <http://ccc.edu/roundtable/Reports.asp>)



Dr. Perry Ward

According to the website for the White House Initiative on Historically Black Colleges and Universities, (<http://www2.ed.gov/about/inits/list/whhbcu/edlite-index.html>), *The Higher Education Act of 1965*, as amended, defines a Historically Black College and University (HBCU) as: "...any historically black college or university that was established prior to 1964, whose principal mission was, and is, the education of black Americans." According to a Statement Adopted by the President's Board of Advisors on Historically Black Colleges and Universities released in December 2004, "HBCUs make a strong and unique contribution to the United States by providing an education to many socioeconomically disadvantaged young people among the nation's African American and other minority populations."

The Alabama Community College System (ACCS) has 22 comprehensive community colleges and 4 technical colleges. Athens State University, an upper-division university, serves junior and senior-level transfer students from the state's community colleges and other four-year universities. In 1963, the Alabama Legislature formed the college system and the Department of Postsecondary Education by linking the public two-year colleges into "a single system governed by the State Board of Education. As in other states, the number of two-year colleges and the student population grew quickly. Over the years, a dual system of primarily African-American trade schools and primarily white junior and technical colleges were merged into a single system. In 1982, the Alabama Legislature created the Department of Postsecondary Education, separating it from the State Department of Education, and creating the position of Chancellor."

According to the White House Initiative on Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) (<http://www2.ed.gov/about/inits/list/whhbcu/edlite-list.html>), Alabama has the most two year public HBCUs in the nation. These six institutions include Lawson State Community College, Bishop State Community College, Gadsden State Community College Valley Street, J. F. Drake State Technical College, Shelton State Community College C.A. Fredd Campus and Trenholm State Technical College. Four of these institutions are led by PRT members.

Lawson State Community College

Lawson State Community College (<http://www.lawsonstate.edu>) traces its origin to October 9, 1947, when the Wallace-Patterson Trade School Act authorized the creation of a trade school in Jefferson County. Wenonah State Technical Institute was organized in 1949 and opened in 1950 with 11 instructors and 75 students in 10 courses and one related subject. The first president was Dr. Theodore A. Lawson. On January 27, 2005, the Alabama State Board of Education adopted the *Statement of Intent to Merge T. A. Lawson State Community College and Bessemer State Technical College*, to form one institution, T.A. Lawson State Community College, in accordance with its policy 102.7 *Consolidation or Merger of Postsecondary Institutions*. Lawson State Community College in Birmingham, Alabama; the Bessemer Campus Bessemer, Alabama. Final approval for the merger was given by the Alabama State Board of Education on June 23, 2005. The Southern Association of Colleges and Schools granted approval of the merger on June 23, 2005. Dr. Perry Ward currently serves as president.

Bishop State Community College

Bishop State Community College (<http://www.bishop.edu/history.html>) was founded in the summer of 1927. It was originally the Mobile Branch of Alabama State College (University) in Montgomery, Alabama. It was established as an in-service arm of Alabama State College that offered extension courses to African-American elementary and secondary teachers in Mobile. In 1965, the Alabama State Legislature ratified the Alabama State Board of Education's action establishing the Alabama State College – Mobile Center as Mobile State Junior College and severed its relationship with Alabama State College in Montgomery. On February 23, 1989, the Alabama State Board of Education re-named the college to Bishop State Community College to reflect its growth in vocational/career offerings, transfer offerings and community service activities. On August 22, 1991, the Alabama State Board of Education consolidated two technical colleges in Mobile – Southwest State Technical College and Carver State Technical College – with Bishop State Community College. Southwest State Technical College, now the Southwest Campus of Bishop State Community Col-

lege, was established to provide postsecondary vocational training in the Mobile area under the 1947 Regional Trade School Act. Dr. Yvonne Kennedy was president for 26 years, retiring on July 30, 2007. Dr. James Lowe, Jr. currently serves as president.

J. F. Drake State Technical College

J. F. Drake State Technical College, (<http://www.dste.cc.al.us/facts.pdf>) located in Huntsville, Alabama was established in 1961 and opened its doors on September 4, 1962 as Huntsville State Vocational Technical School with S. C. O'Neal as its first director/president. Mr. O'Neal served in this capacity until 1983 when Dr. Johnny L. Harris was appointed its second president. On October 26, 2000, Dr. Helen McAlpine was appointed the third president, and its first female president. Drake State was constructed on thirty acres of land deeded by Alabama A & M University to the Alabama Board of Education. In 1966, the name was changed to J. F. Drake State Technical Trade School in honor of the late Dr. Joseph Fanning Drake, a former president of Alabama A & M University for more than thirty-five years. On August 22, 1973, the school was given technical college status by the Alabama Board of Education, and assumed its present name of J. F. Drake State Technical College and was authorized by the Board to offer the Associate in Applied Technology (AAT) degree.

H. Councill Trenholm State Technical College

H. Councill Trenholm State Technical College is located in Montgomery, Alabama (<http://www.trenholmtech.cc.al.us/index.php?id=about-trenholm-state#c472>). The college was created through the consolidation of John M. Patterson State Technical College with H. Councill Trenholm State Technical College. On April 27, 2000, the Alabama State Board of Education approved the intent to merge. Since both colleges were technical colleges, the merger did not alter that status or result in any change in the role of the new entity. The College maintains two campuses: the Patterson Campus and the Trenholm Campus. The two campuses are only 8.9 miles apart. The two Colleges have a shared history in providing services for the same geographical area. Mr. Sam Munnerylyn serves as president.

Gadsden State Community College Valley Campus

Gadsden State Community College's Valley Street Campus, has a heritage that extends back to the 1950s when Black veterans of Etowah County expressed discontent in not being able to attend the white trade school located in Gadsden. Mr. Eugene N. Prater director of the Veterans General Continuation Program for Negroes, solicited support from local, state, and federal officials for the establishment of a trade school for Negroes. In July 1960, the Gadsden Vocational Trade School was founded as a private vocational training school for Black Americans. In 1961, the trade school became part of the State of Alabama's network of vocational/technical schools and operated as a Negro trade school under the supervision of the Alabama State Board of Education. In January 1962, ownership was assumed by the State of Alabama with the school's name being changed to Gadsden State Technical Trade School. In 1977, the trade school became known as Gadsden State Technical Institute, a name which it kept until its merger in 1985 with the Alabama Technical College and with Gadsden State Community College.

Shelton State Community College C.A. Fredd Campus

In 1994, **Shelton State Community College** located in Tuscaloosa, Alabama.

(<http://www.sheltonstate.edu/content.aspx?PageID=110>) consolidated with C. A. Fredd State

Technical College, another public two year college located in Tuscaloosa. The new institution created by the consolidation retained the name of Shelton State Community College, and the president of Shelton State was named president of the consolidated institution. The institution, now called Shelton State Community College, C. A. Fredd Campus, was created by the state legislature in 1963 as Tuscaloosa State Trade School. In 1974, the institution became Tuscaloosa State Technical College and was authorized by the Alabama State Board of Education to grant the associate degree. In 1976, the college name was changed to C. A. Fredd State Technical College to honor the first president of the institution. C. A. Fredd State Technical College was recognized as one of the nation's Historically Black Colleges and Universities. Shelton State Community College maintains that identity and continues the specific HBCU mission of promoting educational access and opportunity for all students in a culturally diverse community.

Dr. Helen McAlpine Appointed as Member of President's Advisors on HBCUs

On September 10, 2010, President Barack Obama announced the appointment of **Dr. Helen T. McAlpine** as a member of the President's Board of Advisors on Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs). The purpose of the board is to advise the President and the Secretary of Education on all matters pertaining to strengthening the educational capacity of HBCUs. The Board shall advise the President and the Secretary in the following areas: improving the identity, visibility, and distinctive capabilities and overall competitiveness of HBCUs; engaging the philanthropic, business, government, military, homeland-security, and education communities in a national dialogue regarding new HBCU programs and initiatives; improving the ability of HBCUs to remain fiscally secure institutions that can assist the nation in reaching its goal of having the highest proportion of college graduates by 2020; elevating the public awareness of HBCUs; and encouraging public-private investments in HBCUs.



The only community college leader on the board, Dr. McAlpine has been the President of J. F. Drake State Technical College, one of 14 two-year HBCUs in the country, since 2000. Dr. McAlpine has over 38 years of experience in the field of education. Her prior positions include Assistant Superintendent of the Huntsville City School System and several positions with the Gadsden City School System. She has also taught at the secondary and post-secondary levels, including at Jacksonville State University. She received her B.A. in English from Talladega College, her M.S. from Jacksonville State University, and her Ed.D. from the University of Alabama.

Dr. Carolyn Anderson to Lead NCBA

Dr. Carolyn Hull Anderson was selected by her peers to become the president of the National Council on Black American Affairs this summer. She realizes that along with the privilege of service comes a great responsibility to honor the traditions and the legacy that are the foundation of the organization while moving forward to a brighter future. In her opening message to the membership, she emphasized the work of the

organization, "As we look forward, the NCBA realizes the greater impact that we can make as we strengthen our organization. We are emphatically aware of how much work there is yet to be done." For her, the NCBA strategic goals are at the core of the enterprise:

- to create a collegial environment that enhances African American student access to and success in community colleges;
- to strengthen relationships with policy development and funding sources to support creative initiatives for African Americans in community colleges;
- to expand leadership participation and opportunities for African Americans in community colleges; and
- to promote an organizational culture that supports African Americans in community colleges and to foster an environment that encourages professional and personal development.

Dr. Anderson has been active in the organization for many years and brings a wealth of leadership experience to the position. She currently serves as the Executive Vice President at Cincinnati State and Technical College where she oversees the daily operations of the college. She has served in administrative positions at Broome Community College (NY) and at Baltimore City Community College.

Dr. Adena Loston Appointed to HBCU Advisory Board

In March 2010, U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan appointed Dr. Adena Williams Loston, president of St. Philip's College in San Antonio, to serve on the Historically Black College and Universities (HBCU) Capital Financing Advisory Board. The advisory board members advise and counsel the U.S. Secretary of Education on the most effective, efficient means of implementing construction financing on Historically Black College and University campuses. Loston's term on the board expires on Sept. 30, 2013. Dr. Loston is one of several representatives of public HBCUs on this board of college CEOs that includes private HBCUs, the president of the United Negro College Fund, president of the Thurgood Marshall College Fund, and the executive director of the White House Initiative on Historically Black Colleges and Universities.

Board members also advise the U.S. Congress on progress made in implementing this part of the legislation. The board members meet with the Secretary of Education at least twice each year to advise on the capital needs of historically Black colleges and universities, how those needs can be met through legislation, and additional steps to improve the operation and implementation of the construction financing program in this area of concern.



91st
AACC
ANNUAL
CONVENTION

April 9-12, 2011

New Day. New Promise. NEW ORLEANS.



Related congratulations are extended to **Dr. James Lowe, Jr.**, who became the interim president of Bishop State Community College in Alabama on August 1, 2007, and on May 22, 2008, the Alabama State Board of Education appointed him president. Prior to the appointment at Bishop State, Dr. Lowe served as the interim president of Northwest-Shoals Community College in Muscle Shoals, Alabama; Interim Dean of Instruction at Chattahoochee Valley Community College in Phoenix City, Alabama; Vice Chancellor of College Operations and Vice Chancellor of Instructional and Student Services for the Alabama Community College System. Dr. Lowe has served as Adjunct Professor of Alabama State University in Montgomery, Alabama, and CEO to State Superintendent, Director of Intervention Programs and SDE Initiatives, for the Alabama State Department of Education. Dr. Lowe has also served as Assistant Superintendent for the Russell County School District, Principal and Assistant Principal, and Teacher/Consultant/Coach. Under Dr. Lowe's leadership, Bishop State Community College has seen nearly a 15 percent increase in enrollment and the implementation of a ten million dollar facilities renovation/construction program. The college has developed several partnerships with business and industry in the Mobile area.



Erma Johnson Hadley was named chancellor of Tarant County College in Fort Worth, Texas in March 2010. She is the first woman and the first African American to hold the position. She has received a number of honors since her appointment. On May 19, 2010, along with 20 honorees, Chancellor Erma Johnson Hadley was named a Local Freedom's Sister in conjunction with a national historic traveling exhibit sponsored by the Smithsonian Institution. Freedom's Sisters, a collaboration between

the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service and the Cincinnati Museum Center, is on a three-year tour to eight selected cities. It highlights the lives of 20 African-American women "whose work for liberty and equality continues to push aside limitations that constrict Americans." On September 13, she was inducted into the Texas Woman's Hall of Fame. The award was created in 1984 by the Governor's Commission for Women to recognize outstanding Texas women. Previous recipients include former first ladies, astronauts and athletes. On November 11, Chancellor Hadley will be recognized for her excellence in education and dedication to the Fort Worth community and her family as a 2010 Texas Women of Influence honoree by the *Fort Worth Business Press*.

Dr. Reginald Sykes was appointed President of Alabama Southern Community College in Monroeville. Dr. Sykes comes to the system with many years of experience in all levels of education. He has served as -college Vice president, Dean of Student Services, adjunct and full-time instructor and, most recently, as Assistant Commissioner for Community and Junior College Relations with the Mississippi Trustees of State Institutions of Higher Learning. Sykes has Bachelor of Science and Master of Science degrees in education-physical education, from Jackson State University in Jackson, Miss. His doctorate is in education-school administration, from Mississippi State University.



Dr. Letitia Uduma has been appointed president of the Wayne County Community College District's Downtown Campus. She unequivocally recognizes the responsibilities and potential inherent in running a college campus. She believes that the learning content and context should support the learner's goals and aspirations. She brings to the institution more than 23 years of service and experience. She holds a doctorate in Instructional Technology from Wayne State University with specialization in Interactive Technologies; an MBA with Information Systems and Database Management specialization from Lawrence Technological University, and a Bachelor of Science degree in Mathematics and Computer Science. She has served in a variety of capacities, including Vice President of Instruction & Student Services, District Dean of Learning Technologies. She is a member of various professional organizations in higher education, training, and technology, and is equally published.



Dr. O'dell Owens began serving as president of Cincinnati State Technical College on September 7. Dr. Owens, a native Cincinnati, attended Woodward High School, Antioch College, and Yale University, where he earned his M.D., a master's in public health and completed a residency in Obstetrics and Gynecology. He also served at Harvard Medical School as clinical instructor and completed a fellowship in Reproductive Endocrinology. He established an in-vitro fertilization program and achieved Cincinnati's first successful conception and delivery, and first pregnancy, from a frozen embryo. His many awards include being named one of the Bicentennial's 200 Greater Cincinnatians in recognition of community service, and one of Black Enterprise magazine's Top 15 Black Doctors in America. In 2004 Owens was elected Hamilton County Coroner and re-elected in 2008.



Inaugurations

Dr. Linda Thomas-Glover addresses the large crowd at her inauguration as the 4th president at Eastern Shore Community College in Virginia on October 29. She was presented with two symbols of leadership: a gavel (fairness and judgment) and a medallion (responsibilities of leadership). In her remarks, she emphasized the need for collective efforts in student success.

Dr. DeRionne Pollard receives the presidential medallion at the ceremonial investiture as she becomes the ninth president of Montgomery College in Maryland on October 29th. In her message, she pledged a focus on innovation and creating pathways for students. Her goal is to make Montgomery the most relevant college in the country in meeting the needs of students.



Dr. Linda Thomas-Glover



Dr. DeRionne Pollard