



# Presidents' Round Table Newsletter

A National Network of African American  
Community College CEOs

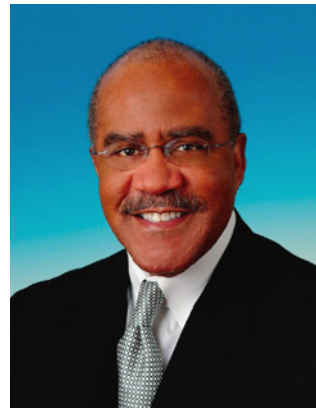
Summer 2010

## Inside this Issue:

- Dr. Walter Bumphus, New President..... **1**
- Comings and Goings..... **2**
- Let's Do the "Ning" Thing..... **3**
- AACC Board Invites Representatives..... **4**
- Have You Paid Your PRT Dues Yet?..... **5**
- PRT Fall Activities..... **5**

## Dr. Walter G. Bumphus Selected as New President/CEO of AACC

The American Association of Community Colleges (AACC) announced the selection of Walter G. Bumphus as its new president and CEO. Bumphus, now A.M. Aikin Regents Chair in Community College Leadership at the University of Texas at Austin, will succeed Dr. George R. Boggs in January 2011. Dr. Bumphus will lead the organization at a critical time in its history as community colleges are in the spotlight as a major provider of higher education. Bumphus is no stranger to AACC as he previously served on the AACC Board of Directors from 1993-97 and headed the AACC board in 1996-97. He is well qualified for the position. A long time member of the PRT, Bumphus will be the first African American to lead the organization.



including the AACC Leadership Award in 2009, ACCT's CEO of the Year Award in 2005, and the Lifetime Achievement Award in 1998 from North Carolina State University.

He is a well known member of the higher education community and has demonstrated significant leadership. In his six year tenure as the president of the Louisiana Community and Technical

College System, he provided the leadership for re-structuring the system and re-organizing the board so that the system was more cohesive. By working with the Department of Labor and others, he dealt effectively with the educational needs of the system that resulted from the devastation caused by Hurricane Katrina. In addition, he provided the leadership for multi-million dollar construction projects at community and technical colleges throughout the state of Louisiana, resulting in much needed improvements to a long neglected system. As president of Brookhaven College in Texas, Dr. Bumphus implemented a Total Quality Management program throughout the college and provided leadership for the construction of one of the first student services facilities in the "one stop shop" model. In his current position, he is making an impact in a different way than he has in previous roles. His focus is on educational policy and planning and preparing individuals to become senior educational administrators, not only in community colleges but also in other public institutions as well.

The Presidents' Round Table congratulates Dr. Bumphus on this significant achievement.

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

- Linda Cerruti
- Dr. Charlene Dukes
- Dr. Thelma Scott-Skillman
- Dr. Joe Seabrooks

## Kenneth Atwater – New Hillsborough Community College President

**D**r. **Kenneth Atwater** began his tenure as president of Hillsborough Community College (HCC) in Florida on July 1, 2010, succeeding Dr. Gwen Stephenson. HCC has more than 44,000 students and 2,700 employees, with campuses in Tampa, Ybor City, Brandon, Plant City and Ruskin.



Prior to the appointment at Hillsborough, Dr. Atwater served in the Maricopa CCD as president of South Mountain Community College in Phoenix, Arizona. While there, he established a record of innovation, working with small businesses and forming partnerships in the community. Enrollment grew by 30 percent during his nine years as president.

## Jannett Jackson Takes over as Interim President for College of Alameda in California



**T**rustees at the Peralta Community College District in Oakland selected **Jannett Jackson** as president of its Alameda campus effective July 1, 2010, upon the retirement of Dr. George Herring. Jackson served previously served as vice president of instruction. Before her arrival in Alameda, she spent six years as an associate dean at Fresno City College.

Jackson is a decorated veteran, having served more than 28 years in the military, including eight months as a company commander in Saudi Arabia during the first Gulf War. When she retired from service, Jackson was the only African-American brigade commander in the California Army National Guard and its highest-ranking African American woman. She participated in the Thomas Lakin Institute in 2002.

## Dr. DeRionne P. Pollard Named President of Montgomery College



**T**he Montgomery College Board of Trustees announced the selection of **Dr. DeRionne P. Pollard** as its new president. Pollard, who will officially start her new role on August 2, 2010, brings 15 years of community college teaching and leadership experience to the position. She served as the president of Las Positas College in Livermore, California, for three years prior to her selection. Under Pollard's leadership, Las Positas

College has seen a nearly 15 percent increase in enrollment and the implementation of an aggressive \$230 million facilities modernization program. She participated in the Thomas Lakin Institute in 2006.

## Peralta Community College District Announces Eñora Tena Webb as New Laney College President

**D**r. **Eñora Tena Webb** has been appointed as the president of Laney College in Oakland, CA. Serving as the acting president since January 2010, Dr. Webb will begin her new position on July 1, 2010. Dr. Webb served as Vice President of Instruction from 2005 – 2009 and Dean of Humanities, Language Arts & Social Sciences from 2002 – 2005. She participated in the Thomas Lakin Institute in 2005



## Dr. Wise Allen Appointed Interim Chancellor of Peralta Community College District



**D**r. **Wise Allen** was appointed interim chancellor of the Peralta Community College District effective July 1, 2010. A long time district administrator in Oakland, Allen began his career in the Peralta district as a sociology professor. He has served as president of Merritt College and in a variety administrative positions at other colleges in the district and the district office.

## Paul Tracy Killpatrick Named As New President For Seattle Central Community College

**P**aul **Tracy Killpatrick** will begin serving as the president of Seattle Central Community College this August, succeeding Dr. Mildred Ollee. He has been serving as the Superintendent-President at Lake Tahoe Community College in California since 2008. Previously, Killpatrick served as president of Great Basin College in Elko, Nevada, and at Mt. Hood Community College in Gresham, Oregon, where he served as vice president of instructional support and community development and as vice president of instruction. He has also served on numerous community and higher education boards and committees.



## Middlesex Community College President Wilfredo Nieves Appointed President of Capital Community College

**M**iddlesex Community College President **Wilfredo Nieves** was appointed president of Capital Community College in Hartford, Connecticut, effective July 1, 2010. Dr. Nieves will succeed retiring college president Calvin Woodland. Dr. Nieves, who has served as President of Middlesex Community College since 2000, has been an educator and educational leader in community colleges for more than 30 years. Prior to assuming a presidency, he served as vice president for academic affairs at Baltimore City Community College from 1995 to 2000.



*(continues on page 3)*

## Retirements



**Dr. Frances White**, President/Superintendent of College of Marin, retired on June 30, 2010, after a total of 38 years in higher education, including two-year and four-year colleges and universities. Most recently, she is past president of the American Association of Community Colleges (AACC) President's Academy and has served

as a member of the President's Academy Executive Committee for the past four years. She was appointed to the American Association of Community Colleges (AACC) Board of Directors for a three-year term starting July 1, 2008.



After 40 years in higher education, most of them in service to community colleges, **Dr. Calvin E. Woodland** retired from Capital Community College in Hartford, Connecticut, effective June 30, 2010. Dr. Woodland became Capital's fourth President in 2005. Previously, Dr. Woodland served as Vice President, Student Services at Bergen Community College and Vice President, Student

Development, at Daytona Beach Community College. Dr. Woodland will become a faculty member in the community college leadership program at Morgan State University.

**Dr. Mildred Ollée** retired as president of Seattle Central Community College after more than 35 years in community colleges and seven years as leader at Seattle Central. She was the first woman to serve as president of the college since its inception in 1966. Immediately prior to becoming president in Seattle, Dr. Ollée served as campus president of the Cascade Campus in the Portland (Oregon) Community Colleges. A long time supporter of the Presidents' Round Table, Dr. Ollée served as secretary for many years.



After 12 years of service as the president of Hillsborough Community College in Florida, **Dr. Gwendolyn Stephenson** retired effective June 30, 2010. She was the longest serving president in the history of the college. During her tenure, the college added a fifth campus, increased the assets of its foundation by 241 percent, and distributed

more than \$3.5M in scholarships. Prior to coming to Hillsborough, Dr. Stephenson served in several positions in the St. Louis Community College District, including chancellor, president of the Meramac campus, and two vice chancellor positions (educational development and planning and academic affairs).

**Elihu Harris** retired June 30, 2010, as chancellor of the Peralta Community College District in California. He began his tenure as interim chancellor in March of 2003 and permanent chancellor in May of 2004. Mr. Harris previously served as mayor of Oakland and as a state assemblyman for 12 years. He has been a member of the Presidents' Round Table for many years.



## Let's Do the "Ning" Thing!!!!

Are you having a difficult time finding that important email that Helen sent you two months ago? Have you had to ask your colleagues in tech support to add memory to your email account? If so, we have just the thing for you! After our January meeting in Dallas, the leadership of the Presidents' Round Table agreed to support the development of a private professional networking website. Since the site was launched in February, twenty-four (24) members of the Presidents' Round Table have already started doing the "Ning Thing." This wonderful tool allows members to

- obtain quick access to participating members;
- post critical dates and events;
- participate in forums regarding critical issues; and
- share news and accomplishments quickly with ease

without clogging up your email account! Joe Seabrooks, put it best, "I am very excited to have a chance to meet and to get to know my colleagues this way; versus having to wait for conferences or professional meetings."

To gain access to the site and start doing your own "Ning Thing," please visit: <http://theprt.ning.com/>. If you have any difficulty, please don't hesitate to contact:

Joe Seabrooks • 818.604.6542 or • [Joe.Seabrooks@mccck.edu](mailto:Joe.Seabrooks@mccck.edu)

If you are having any reservations about getting connected, just say to yourself, "There's nothNing to it!"

## AACC Board Invites Representatives of PRT, NCBA, NAPIC, NCCHC to Present Diversity Proposal

On Friday, June 18, 2010, representatives of the National Council on Black American Affairs (NCBAA), the National Asian/Pacific Islander Council (NAPIC), the National Community College Hispanic Council (NCCHC), and the Presidents' Round Table (PRT), reaffirmed its commitment to diversity and asked the Executive Board of the American Association of Community Colleges to do the same. Drs. Carolyn Anderson, Patricia Hsieh, Cecilia Cervantes, and Charlene Dukes engaged in a frank, rich, and open dialogue based on the recommendations made in the joint statement on diversity prepared by the Councils: *Opening the doors of opportunity: The continuing case for reaffirming diversity*. Drs. Mary Spilde (AACC chair), John Sygelski (incoming chair), Myrtle Dorsey (chair-elect), Dr. George Boggs, CEO, and other members of the Executive Committee greeted the Council representatives.

While acknowledging the work that has been done by the AACC Board and the CEO, including partnerships with the Lumina Foundation (Achieving the Dream) and the College Board (financial aid and transfer initiatives), commitments to the DREAM Act, and compiling best practices relative to minority male retention and success models, the representatives of the Councils urged the leadership to expand its focus through serious dialogue and adoption of recommendations in the joint statement, including the following:

- Place diversity at the forefront of the AACC agenda and organization, having diversity as a major track at every convention and structuring commissions so that they reflect diversity as a major ongoing emphasis.
- Provide for the leadership recognition and advancement of Asian Pacific Islanders, Latinos, and African-Americans.
- Actively recruit persons of color to fill senior-level and middle management positions at the Association.
- Publicly encourage member colleges to include diversity as major initiatives with appropriate institutional commitments to social justice, equity, and inclusion.
- Pursue funding initiatives that are intended to promote student success for persons of color

The representatives of the Councils provided clarity on the need for the statement as evidenced by the rising numbers of students of color in higher education, the need to affirm and support the Obama administration's view of community colleges as central to advancing the

desire for increased credentialing and associate degree attainment, and the desire to increase diversity among the professional ranks within community colleges. The dialogue led to additional suggestions which include the following.

- Providing written responses to each recommendation in the Councils' Statement.
- Designing a plan for action and implementation that addresses the recommendations by the Board and CEO.
- Confirming a more significant role for the Councils, both independently and through the Diversity and Inclusion Commission, in AACC's overall commitment to diversity and growth/development of leaders of color within the association and in community colleges across the country.
- Becoming a leading voice on injustice and social exclusion, closing the achievement gaps in our schools and colleges, and other key issues.
- Including a focus on ethnic/racial diversity in functional responsibilities for new CEO
- Reporting on diversity efforts/initiatives/outcomes as a recurring agenda item for the executive and full boards of AACC
- Reaffirming a commitment to ethnic and racial diversity
- Reviewing hiring practices at the senior ranks of the association
- Walking the talk of diversity through clearer, visible and sustainable ways at national conferences, regional meetings, and external partnerships
- Seeking out partnerships with organizations with similar commitments to address social injustice.
- Understanding, supporting, and utilizing the Commission and Councils as avenues to support AACC's diversity goals through greater participation in FII and the association's programmatic efforts, procurement processes, and conference locations.
- Creating a synergy between and among FII and the various leadership opportunities provided through the Councils and the Commission.

The council representatives appreciated the opportunity to speak in person to the Executive Committee and look forward to a favorable response at this critical juncture in the history of community colleges in their service to an increasing population of students of color.

## Have You Paid Your PRT Dues Yet?

It's that time of the year again when professional organizations are soliciting annual membership dues. Please consider rejoining, or join the PRT for the first time. The PRT is an affiliate of the National Council on Black American Affairs (NCBAA) of the American Association of Community Colleges (AACC).

Why join? It makes good sense to be part of the PRT. Your leadership and support are needed.

The PRT has been in existence for over 25 years focused on providing a vital network for African-American CEOs in community colleges across the nation. Two major efforts the PRT continue to focus on are:

1. Preparing senior level African-American administrators to become CEOs in community colleges. The PRT's Lakin Institute has a tremendous track record during the past 15 years of providing professional development opportunity and mentoring 215 senior level administrators with nearly 1/4 of them becoming CEOs.
2. Addressing critical national agendas facing African-Americans in higher education. In 2008 the PRT launched the African-American Male Initiative (AAMI), taking on a national agenda focused on the plight of African-American males' successful attainment of education and career goals.

Get connected with other sitting and retired African-American U.S. community college CEOs, share experiences, learn about additional career opportunities, get involved with PRTs' nation-wide initiatives, and support

PRTs' efforts to mentor new CEOs and aspiring leaders.

Go to the PRT website to access a membership form: <http://www.theprt.org>. There are various levels of support. And, if joining as an Individual or Associate, your donation may be tax deductible to the extent allowable by law.

PRT's effectiveness is predicated on the active support of its members. PLEASE JOIN. Together, we can continue our important work during 2010-11.

*For further information contact the following individuals for more specific information on the PRT:*

Dr. Helen Benjamin, PRT Convener and Chancellor, Contra Costa Community College District  
[hbenjamin@4cd.edu](mailto:hbenjamin@4cd.edu). 925.229.1000. ex 1210

Dr. Andrew Jones, PRT Secretary and Vice Chancellor of Educational Affairs, Dallas County Community College District  
[acjones@dcccd.edu](mailto:acjones@dcccd.edu). 214.860.2129

Dr. Thelma Scott-Skillman, PRT Treasurer and President, Folsom Lake College  
[scottst@flc.losrios.edu](mailto:scottst@flc.losrios.edu). 916.608.6572

Dr. Charlene Dukes, PRT Lakin Coordinator and President, Prince George's Community College  
[cdukes@pgcc.edu](mailto:cdukes@pgcc.edu) (301) 322-0400

Dr. Ken Atwater, PRT Membership Chair and Directory Coordinator and President Hillsborough Community College  
[k.atwater@hccfl.edu](mailto:k.atwater@hccfl.edu) (813) 253-7050.

## Plan Now to Attend PRT Fall 2010 Activities in Houston

October is an important month for the PRT. The annual fall meeting and the Thomas Lakin Institute for Mentored Leadership are held annually in that month. This year, a new component is being added: an institute for new CEOs. The Houston Community College System will host our events with Art Tyler, deputy chancellor for Houston, serving as our contact person. Details follow.

### Lakin Institute for Mentored Leadership

October 10-15, 2010  
Fee: \$1200.00

For information, contact Charlene Dukes at [cdukes@pgcc.edu](mailto:cdukes@pgcc.edu); Andrew Jones at [acjones@dcccd.edu](mailto:acjones@dcccd.edu); or Charlene Newkirk at [cnewkirk@ccac.edu](mailto:cnewkirk@ccac.edu).

### Institute for New CEOs

October 14-15, 2010  
Fee: Free for members whose institutional membership of \$500 is current; \$500 for others  
Contact Russell Davis at [rdavis@gccnj.edu](mailto:rdavis@gccnj.edu).

### PRT Business Meeting and Professional Development Activities

Noon, October 15 to noon, October 17, 2010  
Fee: none  
All events will be held at Hotel ZaZa.

**Makes your reservations now!**

### Hotel ZaZa

5701 Main Street  
Houston, TX 77005  
Rate: \$89.00/night (3 days before Lakin begins and 3 days after Lakin ends)  
Reservations # (713) 526-1991  
Group Name: Lakin/NCBAA  
Cutoff Date: 9/26/10