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*Office of the President*

December 20, 2019

AACC Committee on Directors and Membership Services  
c/o Dr. Angel M. Royal  
1 Dupont Circle NW, Ste. 700  
Washington, DC 20036

Dear Dr. Royal:

This letter is written in support of Dr. Jay Allen's candidacy for the AACC Board. Dr. Allen is presently the President of Itawamba Community College in Mississippi. I have known him since he assumed his first presidency at Hopkinsville Community College in the KCTCS System. I wholeheartedly endorse and support his candidacy.

Dr. Allen dedicates his career to helping students and ensuring that they have every opportunity presented before them at the institutions where he has worked. Moreover, he is a skilled administrator and college leader who quickly earns the respect and admiration of his peers. Dr. Allen was fortunate to be both a student and employee at Hinds Community College, one of the most recognized colleges in the South. There he learned from one of the great leaders of the community college movement, Dr. Clyde Muse. I think Dr. Allen's experience and training have prepared him well to serve on the AACC Board.

If I may provide any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours truly

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "J. S. Klauber", with a long, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

James S. Klauber, PhD  
President

*Stay close. Go far.*

[www.hagerstowncc.edu](http://www.hagerstowncc.edu)



**Gerald F. Napoles, Ph.D.**  
President

2700 W.W. Thorne Drive  
Houston, TX 77073-3499  
281.618.5400

Lone Star College-  
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2430 Aldine Mail Route Rd.  
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Houston, TX 77090  
281.943.6900

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North Harris School  
of Cosmetology  
910 East Richey Rd.  
Houston, TX 77073  
832.234.5600

Sunday, December 29, 2019

AACC Committee on Directors and Membership Services, c/o Dr. Angel M. Royal  
1 Dupont Circle NW, Ste 700  
Washington, DC 20036

Dear Dr. Royal;

I proudly submit this letter of support for Dr. Jay Allen. Throughout his career, Jay Allen has demonstrated servant leadership and commitment to lifelong learning with several decades spent in various, senior-level leadership roles in community colleges in Kentucky and Mississippi. He began his educational journey as a community college student and fully understands the experiences of today's learners.

Dr. Allen currently serves as the president of Itawamba Community College in Mississippi. He is committed to student access and success. His leadership and the strength of ICC have been recognized both by the Aspen Institute and Phi Theta Kappa. In 2019, the Aspen Institute named ICC as a Top 150 U.S. Community College. In that same year, Phi Theta Kappa honored Dr. Allen with the prestigious Paragon Award. This award recognizes community college presidents that provide strong support for their students.

Prior to his presidency at Itawamba Community College, Dr. Allen served as president/CEO of Hopkinsville Community College in Kentucky. He was also the vice president of the Perkinston Campus and George County Center of Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College. He held a variety of positions at his alma mater, Hinds Community College, including dean of enrollment services. Examples of community service include the following boards: Community Development Foundation; Mississippi Association of Community and Junior College Workforce Committee; Mississippi Education Achievement Council; and the Itawamba County Development Council.

Dr. Allen holds a Ph.D. in higher education administration from the University of Mississippi; M.A. in counselor education and student development from Mississippi State University; B.A. in horticulture from Mississippi State University; and a A.A. from Hinds Community College.

Thank you for your time and consideration. If given the opportunity to serve on the AACC Board of Directors, Jay will add value to the great organization. He will be an outstanding champion for the nation's community colleges and its students.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gerald F. Napoles".

Gerald Fernandez Napoles



## NORTHWEST MISSISSIPPI COMMUNITY COLLEGE

### OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

December 20, 2019

AACC Board Ballot  
[amroyal@aacc.nche.edu](mailto:amroyal@aacc.nche.edu)

Dear AACC Board Committee:

It is an honor and privilege to write a letter of support on behalf of my friend, and fellow MS Community College President, Dr. Jay Allen. Dr. Allen and I have worked together for many years, I know him well, and I know that he is a staunch advocate and respected higher education leader. A couple of important leadership roles he's involved in, among many, include chair of the Mississippi Education Achievement Council and chair of the Mississippi Community College Workforce Committee. In the EAC role, Dr. Allen serves as leader of this legislatively appointed committee whereby the council sets success and completion metrics for higher education institutions in the State. In his role as Workforce Committee Chair, Dr. Allen works closely with other college presidents, business and industry heads, and government leaders to make sure industry training needs are being met.

Having been a member of AACC for many years and having served as President in two states—Mississippi and Kentucky—Dr. Allen has served on various AACC committees and is well-versed on regional and national issues. I believe he would serve AACC well as a board member. He has served on many boards, councils, and committees, including, but not limited to, The Community Foundation; Community Colleges of Appalachia; Mississippi Association of Community and Junior College Presidents; Itawamba County Development Council; CREATE Foundation; Community Development Foundation Leadership Council, Higher Education Research and Development Institute-South Advisory Board, and former ACT State Representative for Mississippi.

Thank you for this opportunity. Please let me know if I may be of further assistance.

Sincerely,



Michael Heindl, PhD, JD  
President

Northwest Mississippi Community College  
4975 Hwy 51 N.  
Senatobia, MS 38668

**DR. MICHAEL J. HEINDL, PRESIDENT**



December 19, 2019

AACC Committee on Directors and Membership Services  
c/o Dr. Angel M. Royal  
One DuPont Circle NW, Suite 700  
Washington, DC 20036  
Sent via email: [amroyal@aacc.nche.edu](mailto:amroyal@aacc.nche.edu)

Dear Committee Members:

It is my honor to write a letter of support for Dr. Jay Allen for his candidacy to the American Association of Community Colleges Board of Directors.

Dr. Allen has served in community college education for several years, and currently is the President of Itawamba Community College, a public institution with two campuses in Fulton and Tupelo and one center in Belden all in Lee County and Itawamba County, Mississippi.

Dr. Allen serves on the following boards: Community Development Foundation; Community Colleges of Appalachia; Mississippi Association of Community and Junior College Presidents; Mississippi Association of Community and Junior College Workforce Committee; Mississippi Education Achievement Council; Itawamba County Development Council; CREATE Foundation; Member; Community Development Foundation Leadership Council, Higher Education Research and Development Institute-South Advisory Board, formerly ACT State Representative for Mississippi.

I have been colleagues with Dr. Allen for several years, and during that time he has been collaborative, mission-driven, and a champion of community colleges leading in higher education. His diverse background has enabled him to be a successful leader on many fronts. Dr. Allen has provided leadership as President at Hopkinsville Community College in Kentucky; Vice President at Perkinston Campus and George County Center, Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College; and Dean of Enrollment Services, Hinds Community College. Dr. Allen was awarded the 2019 Phi Theta Kappa's Paragon Award.

If elected, I believe Dr. Allen will be an outstanding addition to the Board. Thank you for your consideration and feel free to contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Phillip W. Neal", written in a cursive style.

Dr. Phillip W. Neal  
President/CEO



**Dr. Phillip Neal**  
**President/CEO**

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