



*Office of the President*

AACC Committee on Directors and Membership Services

c/o Dr. Angel M. Royal  
1 Dupont Circle NW, Ste 700  
Washington, DC 20036

December 19, 2019

To the Member Colleges of the American Association of Community Colleges:

I wholeheartedly support Dr. Toni Pendergrass, president of San Juan College, for the Board of Directors for the American Association of Community Colleges. She exemplifies the leadership, integrity, and acuity to be an asset to both the Board of Directors and our sector as a whole.

I've had the good fortune of watching Dr. Pendergrass' leadership skills develop over time. Her career has progressed from institutional research at Clovis Community College, through positions of increasing responsibility at Wayne County Community College, El Centro College, and San Jacinto College to her current role as president of San Juan College. She's an active listener, who understands the value of understanding multiple perspectives in decision-making. Her leadership style is balance and compassionate, yet firm.

Dr. Pendergrass' integrity is beyond question. Often, community college presidents are under attack from a variety of constituents, and it's difficult to maintain objectivity. San Juan College, like most of our colleges, has had to make strategic adjustments because of revenue and enrollment declines. These adjustments can be tough and unpopular, yet Dr. Pendergrass remains committed to the mission of the college and service to the students.

What is most impressive about Dr. Pendergrass is her mental acuity. Community colleges are experiencing change at an unprecedented pace. Dr. Pendergrass' keen vision and discernment is an asset in these times, and in her years working with me at San Jacinto College, I saw her solve complex problems with insightful skill.

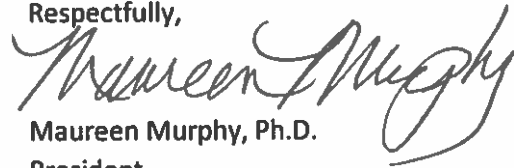
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Because of her character and skills, Dr. Toni Pendergrass will serve the American Association of Community Colleges well as a member of the Board of Directors. I recommend her without reservation, and urge my colleagues to support her candidacy.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Maureen Murphy". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large, decorative flourish at the end of the name.

Maureen Murphy, Ph.D.  
President



**OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT**

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December 23, 2019

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

Attn: Board Committee on Directors

I am writing this letter in support of the appointment of Dr. Toni Hopper Pendergrass, President of San Juan College, to the Board of Directors for the American Association of Community Colleges.

Committed to higher education, Dr. Pendergrass has 25 years of service in community colleges, of which she has served as President of San Juan College since 2012. Aside from her national involvement with the Higher Education Research and Development Institute (HERDI) and the Center for Legislative Energy and Environmental Research University Advisory Board, Dr. Pendergrass is very involved in her local community. She serves on the Four Corners Innovations Board, San Juan College Foundation Board and with the Farmington Chamber of Commerce. She is a dedicated participant and attendee at AACC conferences and events and has presented at AACC conferences numerous times.

It is my pleasure to recommend Toni to the Board of Directors for AACC, her commitment will be as strong to this Board as it is within her own community. Should you have any further questions or concerns, please do not hesitate contacting me at (517) 787-0807 or [phelandanielj@jccmi.edu](mailto:phelandanielj@jccmi.edu).

Sincerely,

Daniel J. Phelan, Ph.D.  
President

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