

**ALABAMA COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 12, 2017, 10:04 A.M.**

The Alabama Community College System Board of Trustees (also referred to herein as the Board) held a meeting at 10:04 a.m. on Wednesday, April 12, 2017, in the Board Room of the Alabama Community College System building in Montgomery, Alabama. The meeting was called in accordance with Act No. 2015-125.

**PRESIDING: MR. AL THOMPSON
VICE PRESIDENT**

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Thompson.

Mr. Thompson mentioned that the Work Session will begin at 10:30 a.m. or shortly following the Board meeting and that it would be held in the Board Room.

The Pledge of Allegiance followed the invocation by Dr. Vicki Karolewics, President of Wallace State Community College – Hanceville.

On roll call, the following Board members were present:

Mr. Al Thompson
Mr. Ron Fantroy
Mrs. Susan Foy
Mr. Frank Caldwell
Mrs. Crystal Brown
Mr. Milton Davis
Mr. Chuck Smith
Mr. Blake McAnally
Ms. Mary Scott Hunter

Also present was Mr. Jimmy H. Baker, Chancellor of the Alabama Community College System. Absent was Governor Kay Ivey.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

On motion by Mr. Davis, second by Mrs. Brown, the agenda was approved unanimously without discussion as presented.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On a motion by Mr. McAnally, second by Mr. Smith, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the Minutes of the March 15, 2017 meeting as presented without discussion.

**SECTION VI
PUBLIC COMMENT**

There were no individuals registered to speak during the Public Comment portion of the meeting.

**SECTION VII
(ACADEMIC AND STUDENT AFFAIRS, ADULT EDUCATION, FACILITIES, FISCAL,
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY, AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT)**

There were no action items.

SECTION IX
(EXECUTIVE, LEGAL AND PUBLIC INFORMATION)

There were no action items.

SECTION X
PERSONNEL

Mr. Thompson asked Mr. Davis, Chair of the Personnel Committee, to speak to the Board. Mr. Davis said he was pleased to announce that the Personnel Committee and Chancellor Baker have agreed to a set of terms and conditions for his contract. Mr. Davis stated that transparency is always been very important to the Board, therefore he would like to read the Personnel Committee's report to the Board. The Alabama Community College System Personnel Committee consisting of Mr. Milton A. Davis, Mr. Blake McAnally, and Mrs. Susan Foy were appointed during the February 2017 Board meeting to provide a recommendation to the Board after Dr. Heinrich submitted his letter of retirement. At last month's meeting the Committee recommended Mr. Jimmy Baker as Chancellor and the Board voted and approved unanimously. The Personnel Committee's next mission was to work on a contract of employment for Mr. Baker. We have arrived at a set of mutually agreeable terms and conditions with Mr. Baker. The Board has been provided a copy of the contract for review and approval. These are the primary sections of interests of the contract. The effective date of the contract is April 1, 2017. The term of the contract is three years. The salary is \$288,000 annually. The annual housing allowance was deleted. The automatic renewal of the contract was deleted. An annual evaluation of the Chancellor's performance will be conducted before December 31 with respect to the following matrix:

- 1) the Chancellor's embracement, promotion, and advancement of the vision and mission of the Alabama Community College System;
- 2) the Chancellor's efforts to secure the necessary capital, legislative appropriations and other resources for the proper management and operation of the Alabama Community College System;
- 3) the Chancellor's leadership and direction in building a culture of integrity and excellence throughout the Alabama Community College System;
- 4) the Chancellor's financial efficiency in managing the budget and appropriated funds in a manner to be a good steward of State and Alabama Community College System resources;
- 5) the Chancellor's efforts and intentions to work cooperatively with the Board to develop and implement a fiscally responsible plan for the Alabama Community College System for the purpose of minimizing duplication and increasing the overall efficiency of the entire System; and,
- 6) the Chancellor's efforts and intentions to work cooperatively with the Board to implement the elements of Board approved strategic plans for the Alabama Community College System.

Mr. Davis said transparency is very important to the Board, therefore, the Personnel Committee has attempted to be very transparent in our report. On motion by Mr. Davis, second by Mr. Smith, Mr. Jimmy Baker's contract of employment was approved unanimously without discussion as presented.

Mr. Thompson complemented Mr. Davis and the Personnel Committee on the work that they have done on this. He said he appreciated their due diligence and thought in that. Mr. Thompson said Chancellor Baker, we are delighted to have you. We thank you for being here for us. We appreciate your leadership and are excited about the future.

**STATE OF ALABAMA
MONTGOMERY COUNTY**

CONTRACT OF EMPLOYMENT

THIS AGREEMENT is entered into effective as of the 1st day of April 2017, by and between the Alabama Community College System, a department of government of the State of Alabama, acting by and through its Board of Trustees (hereinafter referred to as the "Board"), and Mr. Jimmy H. Baker, as Chancellor of the Alabama Community College System, (hereinafter referred to as "Chancellor"), and is subject to the terms and conditions hereinafter set forth.

WHEREAS, pursuant to Alabama Act No. 2015-125 (the "Act") the Alabama Community College System was created as an independent department of state government to replace and succeed to the duties of the Department of Postsecondary Education. The Act further transferred the authority, powers and duties assigned to the State Board of Education with respect to the supervision, administration, naming, financing, construction and equipping of institutions of postsecondary education, including community and technical colleges, junior colleges and trade schools, however described, to the Board.

WHEREAS, the Act further authorizes the Board to enter into a contract with the Chancellor for services; and,

WHEREAS, the Board has determined that it needs to employ a Chancellor to assume the duties and responsibilities of the office of Chancellor for the Alabama Community College System and that Jimmy H. Baker possesses the training and educational experience to be well suited and imminently qualified to lead the Alabama Community College System as Chancellor.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual conditions and covenants contained herein, it is agreed by and between the parties as follows:

SECTION 1. EFFECTIVE DATE: This Agreement shall be deemed effective on and as of April 1, 2017, and the Chancellor shall be entitled to all benefits contained herein as of that date.

SECTION 2. TERM OF EMPLOYMENT: The Board hereby employs the Chancellor and the Chancellor hereby accepts employment with the Board for a period beginning on April 1, 2017, and ending March 31, 2020, subject to the provisions of this Agreement.

SECTION 3. SALARY: During the term of this Agreement, the Chancellor shall be paid \$288,000 per annum. It is further agreed by and between the Board and the Chancellor that the Board, in its absolute discretion, may increase the Chancellor's salary from time to time in the Board's discretion, and in accordance with applicable provisions of law. The Chancellor shall not be entitled to receive any cost of living or annual salary increases passed by the Alabama Legislature for State, Education, or Alabama Community College employees, which may be effective on or after the date of this Agreement.

SECTION 4. OTHER BENEFITS: The Chancellor shall be entitled to such other employment benefits as allowed by law, rule, or regulation, including, but not limited to, participation in the State Retirement System and State sponsored health insurance programs, a comprehensive annual physical, accumulation of annual and sick leave as provided for State employees, the use of a motor vehicle, reimbursement for the reasonable costs to obtain and maintain a cell phone, a laptop computer, and an electronic tablet.

SECTION 5. EXPENSES: The Board acknowledges that the Chancellor is frequently expected to travel and attend conferences and meetings in order to fulfill the duties of his office, obtain relevant professional development and/or training and represent the interest of the Alabama Community College System. The Chancellor shall be entitled to be reimbursed for the reasonable costs of travel expenses related and pertaining to his official duties as Chancellor.

SECTION 6. EVALUATION: The Board shall conduct an evaluation of the Chancellor's performance of his duties and responsibilities no later than December 31st of each year. The evaluation shall be conducted in a manner which the Board may from time to time prescribe. Without limiting the duties and responsibilities to be evaluated, the Board shall include an evaluation of the Chancellor's performance with respect to the following metrics:

- 1) the Chancellor's embracement, promotion, and advancement of the vision and mission of the Alabama Community College System;
- 2) the Chancellor's efforts to secure the necessary capital, legislative appropriations and other resources for the proper management and operation of the Alabama Community College System;
- 3) the Chancellor's leadership and direction in building a culture of integrity and excellence throughout the Alabama Community College System;
- 4) the Chancellor's financial efficiency in managing the budget and appropriated funds in a manner to be a good steward of State and Alabama Community College System resources;
- 5) the Chancellor's efforts and intentions to work cooperatively with the Board to develop and implement a fiscally responsible plan for the Alabama Community College System for the purpose of minimizing duplication and increasing the overall efficiency of the entire System; and,
- 6) the Chancellor's efforts and intentions to work cooperatively with the Board to implement the elements of Board approved strategic plans for the Alabama Community College System.

The evaluation will include the opportunity for members of the Board to discuss their perceptions of the Chancellor's performance of his duties. A written summary of the Board's evaluation shall be provided in a timely manner to the Chancellor. Upon a finding of unsatisfactory performance, either in part or in whole, the Board shall notify the Chancellor in writing of his deficiencies or unsatisfactory performance, shall specify remedial actions that he is requested to take and shall allow the Chancellor a reasonable time, not to exceed the next evaluation date, to make satisfactory progress toward correcting such deficiencies or unsatisfactory performance. Upon a finding of a failure to make satisfactory progress toward correcting the deficiencies or unsatisfactory performance, the Board may take such action as it deems advisable, including the termination of the Agreement, consistent with the terms herein. A failure to correct deficiencies within the period established by the Board, shall be deemed to constitute a willful neglect of duty and good cause for termination of this Agreement.

SECTION 7. CHANCELLOR'S DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:
The Chancellor shall assume and discharge all duties and responsibilities imposed upon the Chancellor of the Alabama Community College System by law and such other duties as the Board shall require of him from time to time in accordance with applicable provisions of the law. The Chancellor shall perform the responsibilities of his office efficiently, truthfully and faithfully in consultation with the Board. Furthermore, the Chancellor shall always conduct his actions subject to and in accordance with the policies from time to time adopted by the Board.

SECTION 8. TERMINATION BY MUTUAL AGREEMENT OF PARTIES: The Agreement may at any time be terminated by the mutual consent of the parties to this Agreement. The consent of the Board in such cases may only be given or expressed by official action of the Board.

SECTION 9. TERMINATION BY BOARD: Notwithstanding any other provisions of this Agreement, the Board may at any time officially act, by majority of the whole

Board, to unilaterally terminate this Agreement and thereby terminate the employment of the Chancellor. Said action shall be at the sole and absolute discretion of the Board. Any termination pursuant to this section shall only be accomplished after 90-days' notice to the Chancellor.

If such termination is for cause, as defined under Alabama Code §16-3-25 (2001) or under Section 5 of this Agreement, then the Chancellor shall be notified as provided as provided in Alabama Code §16-3-25 (2001), and be given an opportunity to be heard under said section. If termination occurs thereafter for cause, then no remuneration or any other benefit, financial or otherwise, shall be paid to the Chancellor.

SECTION 10. TERMINATION BY CHANCELLOR: This Agreement may at any time be terminated unilaterally by the Chancellor by providing 60-days written notice to the Board that he desires to terminate this Agreement.

SECTION 11. Governing Law: This Agreement shall be governed by and be construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Alabama.

SECTION 12. Integration: This agreement integrates and supersedes any and all other agreements and understandings of every character between the parties. This Agreement constitutes the entire agreement between the Board and the Chancellor for the period beginning on the 1st day of April, 2017, and ending on the 31st day of March, 2020.

SECTION 13. Partial Invalidity: If any portion of this Agreement is determined by a court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, void, or otherwise unenforceable, the remaining portions of this Agreement shall remain valid and of full force and effect.

SECTION 14. Successors and Assigns: This Agreement shall be binding upon the successors and assigns of the Board.

DONE this the ____ day of April, 2017.

Jimmy H. Baker
Chancellor

THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES FOR THE
ALABAMA COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM

BY: _____

Its Presiding Officer

**SECTION XI
(CHANCELLOR'S REPORT)**

Chancellor Baker expressed his appreciation for the confidence the Board placed in him. He said I think it is more than just me. I think it is the staff in the System office. I think it is the leadership across the System. I pledge that we all are going to do everything to live up to the conditions that are specified in my contract.

Chancellor Baker said I have several items on which I would like to update the Board. This came about this morning, although there has been a lot of discussion and a lot of background. This is a resolution that will be proposed to be passed by the Legislature. I met early this morning, April 12, with the Pro Tem and the Chairman of the Budget Committee in the Senate and several other

members of Legislature were involved. They have asked the Community College System/Postsecondary Education to be the lead entity of education in the State to move forward with developing a more rational way to allocate funds across the State. They have been talking about this for about a year at least. They have engaged representation from Lumina to assist in this process. We have met with the group previously. While it is going to require a lot of work, I will tell you the Board policy that was adopted by the Board sometime back on evaluation of presidents is in line with what they are looking at. It is an evaluation of not just of presidents but it is an evaluation of the schools and hopefully a planning of how we can improve. I feel that it is an honor for us to participate in a lead role on this. Their anticipation, as we work through this, is that it will be a demonstration to other aspects of education in the State of some things they need to look at. Let me make this clear, they are not ready to present it. They have asked that I bring to the Board this resolution with the understanding that they are open for suggestions, maybe improvements and other comments. We will distribute this to the presidents as well. They are looking for as much good information as they can get back. I think this is important. They don't want to wait a month. They want us to move forward quickly. Chancellor Baker asked Dr. Rothamer to read the resolution.

Dr. Rothamer read the following resolution:

**CREATING THE ALABAMA COMMUNITY COLLEGE ADVISORY COUNCIL ON
OUTCOME-BASED FUNDING**

WHEREAS, there is a need for the development of an outcome-based funding model that aligns the state's investment in the Alabama Community College System with the state's education policy goals and objectives; now therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That the Alabama Community College Advisory Council on Outcome-Based Funding is created.

(a) The advisory council shall be composed of the following members:

- (1) The Chancellor of the Alabama Community College System.
- (2) The Board of Trustees of the Alabama Community College System.
- (3) The Executive Director of the Alabama Commission on Higher Education.
- (4) One member appointed by the Speaker of the Alabama House of Representatives.
- (5) One member appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Alabama Senate.
- (6) One member appointed by the Lieutenant Governor.

(b) The appointing authorities shall coordinate their appointments to assure the advisory council membership is inclusive and reflects the racial, gender, geographic, urban, rural, and economic diversity of the state. The chair and vice chair of the advisory council shall be elected at the first meeting by the members of the advisory council.

(c) The advisory council shall develop an outcome-based funding model for the allocation of Education Trust Fund appropriations to the publicly supported community and technical colleges in Alabama for institutional operations. The advisory council may create ad hoc working groups, consisting of persons selected by the advisory council for this purpose, to advise and assist the advisory council in carrying out its duties.

(d) The outcome-based funding model developed by the advisory council shall be all of the following:

(1) Used to align institutional funding with statewide priorities for community and technical college education by encouraging programs and services focused on student success and providing incentives for progress toward statewide goals built around a set of shared principles that are embraced by state-supported community and technical colleges.

(2) Employ appropriate productivity metrics that are aligned with goals and objectives for community and technical college education attainment in this state.

(e) The outcome-based funding model developed by the advisory council shall also include metrics that align with any statewide plan or goals subsequently adopted for education entities in the state. In order to provide incentives for progress consistent with the state's education

policy goals and objectives, the funding model shall incorporate metrics considering effectiveness, affordability, and efficiency including, but not limited to:

- (1) Differences in institutional missions.
- (2) Completion of students' educational goals.
- (3) Progression toward students' completion of programs of study including a degree, certificate, or credential.
- (4) Institutional collaboration that encourages the successful transfer of students.
- (5) Success in serving underrepresented students.
- (6) Production of students graduating with credentials in science, technology, engineering, mathematics, and other high-demand fields.
- (7) Any other priorities as determined by the advisory council.

(h) Upon the request of the chair, the Secretary of the Senate and the Clerk of the House of Representatives shall provide necessary clerical assistance for the work of the advisory council. The advisory council shall report its findings, conclusions, and recommendations to the Governor, the Chair of the House Ways and Means Education Committee, and the Chair of the Senate Finance and Taxation Education Committee not later than January 1, 2018, whereupon the advisory council shall stand dissolved and discharged of any further duties and liabilities. Each legislative member of the committee shall be entitled to his or her regular legislative compensation, per diem, and travel expenses for each day he or she attends a meeting of the committee in accordance with Amendment 871 of the Constitution of Alabama of 1901. These payments shall be paid out of any funds appropriated to the use of the Legislature.

Chancellor Baker said this is a working document. They are very serious in getting your input so that we can eventually have a document that everyone is amenable to. It is not being viewed as a way to be punitive toward colleges. It is a going forward kind of approach to funding. It is interesting to me and I have known this for a long time. Right now the main rule of thumb of financing education in the State and the division of the monies available is an agreement that was reached by Paul Hubbard and Joe Fine about ten or twelve years ago. That is probably the most forceful element in the whole funding formula. They are interested in moving more toward funding based on prospective goals.

I want to add that we have been requested by the leadership of the Senate to make a presentation. Every segment of education (K-12 and Higher Ed) are going to have to participate. We have been selected as the lead presenter to make a full presentation of our plan for improving education in the State of Alabama and our role. We are scheduled for May 1. We will get more information out to you about that.

Chancellor Baker asked Mr. Boone Kinard to give a Legislative Update. Mr. Kinard said Monday, April 10, was a day for the ages for the State of Alabama. One, hopefully, we will not have to relive again for a very, very long time. We have a new governor, Governor Ivey. As a result of that a new president of this Board. On April 11, around 7:00 p.m., the Alabama Legislature gave final passage to our body corporate legislation. That bill has been sent to the Governor. Hopefully, she will sign that bill and it will go into law. That was a good night to get that through the Legislature. With that bill through the Legislature, there are a couple of other issues we are monitoring. I mentioned to you last month that there is a veterans' scholarship issue that has expanded and taken most of Higher Ed's portion of the Education Budget for available new dollars. There is a bill out there that looks to making some tweaks to that program so, hopefully in the future, they do not have an expansion in dollars like we have had this year. We are monitoring that legislation and a couple of others. The main one out there is the Education Budget. The Budget did pass the Senate last week. We did see an increase in that Budget for Workforce Development. There was \$1.75 million added to Community College's budget for Workforce Development. Everything else was level funded. We were the only higher education entity that got any new dollars. That was a positive. The Education Budget now moves on to the House. We will be in contact with Chairman Poole and his committee as that moves forward. Hopefully we will see that through and I hope that will be a positive document when they get done with it.

Chancellor Baker said Boone and I have been working on a little project that we are seriously interested in. Trying to coordinate with some of our friends in Washington to strengthen our relationships, our information sources and interests in funding from Washington, D.C. as well. I will give you an update when we get close to closure on that. We are getting some good input from our representatives and other friends in D.C. We feel it is important that this organization needs to stay on top of the funding and not just funding, but regulations as well that occur in Washington.

Chancellor Baker said there has been considerable amount of discussion about prison education, along with a lot of discussion in the Legislature about prisons and how the state is going to step up and provide whatever needs to be provided to service the incarcerated population. I have asked Susan Price to take on the responsibility of digging into the past looking at where we are and what we need to do to move forward.

Ms. Price said that we have been working on two fronts – internally and externally. As I reported to you at the last Work Session, we have been undertaking a compressive review of what we do with correctional education in the System. We have five institutions that serve the incarcerated. We have completed the review of Ingram State Technical College and now we have expanded to the other institutions. I learned just recently that our team that has been on the ground reviewing those programs have some really great best practices to share. She said our issue is going to be how can we expand even more. We have waiting lists. Really good work is going on out in the prisons. Physical capacity has become an issue for us. Then we are working internally, as well. One of the things that this review has revealed to us is that in the past, we have not been as hands on from the System Office in understanding what goes on with our colleges in correctional education and being as supportive as we can be. So what we are doing is we are looking at an organizational structure within this agency to have a point person or point persons who would be responsible for monitoring and supporting our efforts behind the walls. Externally, we've had several meetings with our partners and stakeholders and those have been going well. Chancellor Baker and I had a meeting with the folks over at Corrections a few weeks ago. Recently I received a follow-up phone call for some more intense discussions about how we can be better partners with one another. I have met with the Executive Director of the Sentencing Commission to talk about incentivizing the incarcerated to sign on to our programs. The thing about it is we are noticing with the younger group, the millennials who are behind bars, they are just not as interested in education as the older prisoners are. So we want to think about ways to get them in. One of the carrots is if there is a possibility for you to be released earlier if you take advantage of our adult education programs and our career technical programs and learn a skill so that you are ready for work once you exit the prison, then they are more likely to enroll. So that part of our discussions with the Sentencing Commission, that is part of the upcoming discussions we will have with the Sheriffs Association, with the judges, as well as the DA. Because we need everybody on board with this new kind of approach. Finally, correctional education is a little bit of a misnomer because it suggests that our efforts are concentrated behind the walls. But we have been having some really good discussions with the Board of Pardons and Paroles about what happens once these folks are released because many of them come out without basic skills, without the GED, without any opportunity or skills that would allow them to get a good job. Those conversations with Pardons and Paroles have been extremely fruitful. They are in the middle of a new initiative called Day Reporting Centers for high risk paroles. These are folks who may not have stable home environments or may not have a skill or may not have even a GED or a high school diploma. They have opened offices in Birmingham and Mobile, and our community colleges, Jeff State and Bishop State, have responded to the need for education within those facilities. They are going to open up a facility in Montgomery later this year and they really want us to work with them at a System level to support this initiative. Ultimately, they will have sites in Tuscaloosa, Huntsville and then they will move to a model called Day Reporting Centers Light. Right now at any moment there are about 30,000 individuals in the State of Alabama on parole. Many of them are without really basic job skills and even though about 45 percent are employed, many of them are underemployed. Again because they don't

have those basic skills. They are very interested in us working with them and them being able to refer those clients to various programs to get them moving as well. It is an untapped market, an untapped group, and we are very happy to step in and offer assistance. Ms. Price asked for questions.

Ms. Hunter said 30,000 paroles is six percent of the total population (450,000). If you can prevent half of those people from becoming recidivist again, that is three percent reduction in the total population in prison. We need to reduce it. 40 percent is the goal. That is 10 percent of the percentage that we need. Ms. Price said we have to be at the table, we have to be good partners.

Chancellor Baker said some months ago the staff had reported to you an issue of certification of programs. I wanted to give you an update of where we are in that respect. We are not giving you a full blown detail report because Mr. Jeff Lynn was invited to be the keynote speaker at the National Ship Builders Association Conference and I told him to go. Dr. Jason Hurst will give you a short report on where we stand.

Dr. Hurst said to recap on where this developed. A little over a year ago, Chancellor Heinrich sent out a request to dive into this certification issue with our colleges. I think this probably developed as a result of what was going on in K-12 with the certifications that they have for their workforce programs and comparing what K-12 was doing in workforce with what the colleges are doing. Trying to align those is really what the effort started out being. Since that time, there has been quite a bit of change in the leadership with the Alabama State Department of Education, as well as on our side with the Chancellor's office. In Workforce Development, I would say about 80 percent of our staff are less than a year being employed. So we have had a lot of change in our staffing. Ms. Kristi Bain has spent many months working on this project. She met with all the colleges individually, their presidents and their staff looking and analyzing the programs that are available at the colleges, as well as what certifications each program might have in addition to the certifications the student might obtain when leaving those programs. We have a detailed listing of those things. Some colleges have lots of certifications, lots of programs that have credentials and then there are some areas that we need to take a look at and maybe beef those up to some degree. But we really have shifted focus since that time. We really want to ensure that we are laser focused on what business and industries want us to be doing. We don't want to jump too soon and ask colleges to get certain credentials that may not be important to our business and industries partners. As a result of that we slow rolled this process. In the meantime, Mr. Jeff Lynn is wanting to rollout a statewide initiative with a statewide certification that is going to rollout very soon. I know that he is excited to inform you of more detail about that. This will be the first of its kind in the United States. I know he is really excited about that. We are all so excited to roll that out. But in conjunction with that, we want to take a look at the programs we have, the certifications that we have to offer and make sure that they are laser focused on what business and industries want. In addition to that, we want to provide college credit for these certifications. So if someone in business and industry has a certification, they may be able to come to our college and get a certain amount of college credit while they begin their degree process. We got a lot of things moving, a lot of moving parts here and things that we are analyzing. We are committed to this. This is important to our System. It is a big, big undertaking to look at this especially when you add the component of providing college credit for these industry certifications. It is a big deal to our companies. We want to make sure that these are stackable industry recognized national certifications. So the IT industry is one that is very easy to provide an example of stackable. If you look at a CompTIA certifications, one might start out with an A+ certification, move to a Network +, then a Security +, etc. We want to be able to provide college credit for each one of those stackable industry certifications. I do believe within the next 30 to 90 days that we will be able to report back and provide additional information as we roll out the statewide initiative. Chancellor, there is more to come in the very near future.

Mr. McAnally said it was exciting to hear. Efficiency, consistency, removing redundancy on certifications from K-12 all the way through is critical.

Ms. Hunter said she was hopeful on the K-12 side that they would have Dr. Cleveland back pretty soon so you will have someone to work with on that side.

Mr. Thompson thanked everyone who gave reports and who gave presentations to the Board.

Mr. Thompson gave his sincerest thanks to Dr. Karolewics and Wallace State Community College Hanceville for the beautiful Easter lilies. He said our thanks and appreciation to your Horticultural department.

Mr. Thompson stated that it was brought to his attention that the National Council of Marketing and Public Relations, which is also an affiliate of the American Association of Community Colleges, hands out annually Pacesetter Awards. President Branch, Coastal Alabama Community College, received the 2016 Pacesetter Award for District 2. He congratulated President Branch and the great job that the institution has done and is doing in marketing.

SECTION XII
(DATE AND LOCATION OF NEXT MEETING)

The next Board meeting will be held in Montgomery at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, May 10, 2017, in the Board Room of the Alabama Community College System building in Montgomery, Alabama. A work session will follow at 1:00 p.m. in the Presidents Conference Room.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Mr. Davis, second by Ms. Brown, the Board meeting was adjourned at 10:41 a.m.

Vice President

Chancellor