

# HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

## NATIONAL CONFERENCE



PD&R

Hyatt Regency Miami \* Miami, Florida  
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# DR. DAVID L. BECKLEY

Dr. David L. Beckley was appointed president of Rust College in Holly Springs, Mississippi, on January 16, 1993, and assumed the position on July 1, 1993. For his service to Rust College in this capacity, he holds the distinction of being the longest tenured senior college president in the state of Mississippi.

Before assuming the position as 11th president of Rust College, Dr. Beckley served from 1987 to 1993 as president of Wiley College in Marshall, Texas. Since returning to Mississippi, he has been elected chair of the Mississippi Association of Independent Colleges; president of the Mississippi Association of Colleges; president of the National Association of Schools and Colleges of the United Methodist Church; and chair of the member presidents of the United Negro College Fund. He is also a member of: the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Division III presidents council; the board of directors of the Methodist Health Systems, Inc., Memphis, Tennessee; and the University Senate of the United Methodist Church, where he chaired the Black College Council, SERVE Board, Yocona Area Council Boy Scouts of America, Methodist LeBonheur Healthcare Foundation, Black Methodist for Church Renewal, United Methodist Senior Services of Mississippi, Inc., the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, the CREATE Board, and the Mississippi Institute of Arts and Letters.

Dr. Beckley is a member of Asbury United Methodist Church, Phi Delta Kappa Educational Fraternity, Alpha Phi Omega National Service Fraternity, Sigma Pi Phi Professional Men's Fraternity, and Omega Psi Phi National Fraternity, Inc. He is also a 33rd degree Mason.

Since Dr. Beckley accepted the presidency of Rust College, the college's endowment fund has grown from \$13 million to \$23 million, and has received reaffirmation of regional accreditation with specialty accreditation from the Department of Social Work by the Council on Social Work Education.

Among Dr. Beckley's recent awards are the Silver Beaver Award, Boy Scouts of America; Outstanding Education Alumni Award, University of Mississippi; Outstanding Alumni Achievement Award, National Association for Equal Opportunity in Higher Education; Citizen of the Year, Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.; Service Award, NCAA; and President of the Year, National Association of African American Honors Programs.

A 1967 graduate of Rust College, Dr. Beckley became the third alumnus to serve his alma mater as president. In addition to the Rust College bachelor's degree, he possesses both an M.Ed. and Ph.D. in higher education administration from the University of Mississippi.



# DR. CARLTON E. BROWN

Dr. Carlton E. Brown became the third president of Clark Atlanta University on August 1, 2008, after serving as executive vice president and provost since July 2007.

Dr. Brown brings to Clark Atlanta University a great wealth of executive experience and accomplishments in higher education, after having served as the president of Savannah State University for 9-1/2 years and holding senior-level administrative positions at several universities. Before coming to Clark Atlanta University, Dr. Brown was appointed by Georgia Board of Regents Chancellor Errol Davis to assist in the implementation of major systemwide initiatives.

Dr. Brown served on the faculty of the School of Education at Old Dominion University in Virginia from 1979 to 1987. He then joined the faculty of Hampton University in Virginia as the dean of the School of Education, and later, as dean of the School of Liberal Arts and Education. In 1996, he was promoted to vice president for planning and dean of Hampton's Graduate College.

During Dr. Brown's tenure as Savannah State University's 11th president, the university experienced several notable milestones. Among them were: a 48-percent increase in student enrollment from fall 1998 to fall 2005; the transformation of student housing and academic support facilities; the accreditation and reaccreditation of several academic programs; major increases in grants and contracts; improved student retention; and strengthened graduate programs to increase the number of minorities pursuing graduate degrees in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics.

A native of Macon, Georgia, Dr. Brown earned a B.A. in English and American studies and a Ph.D. in multicultural education from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. After completing his undergraduate degree, Dr. Brown worked as a teacher and counselor in an inner-city alternative high school.

## THERON J. JACKSON

Theron J. Jackson is special assistant to the chancellor for institutional advancement and university relations for Southern University at Shreveport, Louisiana. He has been the featured speaker for churches, graduations, corporate and government agency meetings, law enforcement training conferences, women's conferences, college and university events, and military base events. He strongly believes in getting involved in his community to affect change for the common good of all its citizens. He has been a board member of Habitat for Humanity of Northwest Louisiana; the Shreveport Chamber of Commerce; Shreveport chapter of the NAACP; the YMCA; and the Louisiana State Fair.

Mr. Jackson has served as president of the Shreveport Minority Business Council; pole march of the Bossier City chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc.; and vice president and coach with the West-Shreveport Little League. Mr. Jackson has served as junior achievement consultant at several area elementary and middle schools. He has also served as a cub master and scoutmaster in an effort to promote and sustain urban scouting.

Mr. Jackson is a graduate of both Leadership Shreveport-Bossier and Leadership Louisiana. He is currently serving on the boards of Sci-Port Discovery Center and the Caddo Council on Aging. In November 1998, Mr. Jackson was recognized by *Ebony* magazine as one of the nation's top 30 leaders under 30. On October 5, 2002, he was elected to the Shreveport City Council as the representative for District G. As councilman, Mr. Jackson created the city of Shreveport's Youth City Council and created 100 jobs for young people in the city of Shreveport.

Mr. Jackson earned a bachelor's degree in business management from Louisiana Tech University. He has a master's degree and an honorary doctorate degree from Louisiana Baptist University. He has also completed studies at Texas A&M University, Harvard University, and Indiana University.

## DR. JULIANNE MALVEAUX

Dr. Julianne Malveaux is the 15th president of Bennett College for Women. She is also an economist, author, and commentator, and has been described by Dr. Cornel West as "the most iconoclastic public intellectual in the country." She is also the president and chief executive officer of Last Word Productions, Inc., a multimedia production company headquartered in Washington, D.C.

Dr. Malveaux's popular writing has appeared in *Black Issues in Higher Education*, *Essence*, *Ms. Magazine*, the *Progressive*, and *USA Today*. Her weekly columns appeared for more than a decade (1990–2003) in newspapers across the country, including the *Charlotte Observer*, *Detroit Free Press*, *Los Angeles Times*, *New Orleans Tribune*, and *San Francisco Examiner*. She has hosted television and radio programs, and appeared widely as a commentator on networks, including ABC, BET, CNBC, CNN, C-SPAN, Fox News, MSNBC, NBC, PBS, and others.

Dr. Malveaux received her bachelor's and master's degrees in economics from Boston College, and earned a Ph.D. in economics from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

# DR. CELESTINE NTUEN

Dr. Celestine Ntuen is interim vice chancellor for research and economic development at North Carolina Agricultural & Technical State University (NCA&T). He is also a distinguished university professor, founding director of the Center for Human-Machine Studies/Center for Human-Centric Decision Making, and professor of industrial and systems engineering.

Dr. Ntuen has more than 24 years of research experience, of which more than 16 years have been spent addressing battlefield sensemaking and military decision support system development. He has 228 publications (journal and conference proceedings) and 1 edited book to his credit. As a teacher, he has supervised 11 doctoral and 60 master's students. He was instrumental in establishing the Industrial Project Sponsor Group in NCA&T's Department of Industrial Engineering, and has supervised 39 undergraduate capstone design projects. His industry experience includes consulting for Fortune 500 companies such as American Express, AT&T, Burlington Industries, Cone Mills Corporation, Convatec, Fieldcrest Cannon, IBM, and Kayser-Roth.

Dr. Ntuen is well known in the scientific community for his research in sensemaking and human-machine interaction. He is the co-founder of the Annual Symposium on Human Interaction with Complex Systems and founding chair of Intelligent Teleoperation Conference. He has received accolades for his workshops on cognitive engineering application in human-computer design, which have been presented in China, Germany, South Korea, and at many international conferences in the United States.

Dr. Ntuen developed Alternative Courses of Action Display (ACAD) software for alternative courses of planning for the first Army Research Laboratory Federated Laboratory in Advanced Display. He also developed Sensemaking Support Software (S3) for military decisionmaking processes. He is currently developing software on socially mediated agents for mobile ad-hoc networks.

He has received many honors, including NCA&T's Distinguished University Professorship; Commander's Letter of Recognition from Battle Command Battle Laboratory, U.S. Combined Arms Command, Fort Leavenworth, Kansas; Phi Kappa Phi; Citation from the Office of Vice President, United States of America, for contribution to Army Technology Digitization Project for development of ACAD software; Society of Automotive Engineers Ralph Teetor Educator Award; Patron, the Center for Skill Acquisition and Rural Development, University of Uyo, Nigeria; NCA&T Senior Researcher of the Year; College of Engineering Researcher of the Year, Teacher of the Year, and Student Advisor and Mentor of the Year.

Dr. Ntuen is a committed civic leader and serves as the president of the Nigerian Association in the Triad (North Carolina), founding chairman of the nonprofit Rural Life Development, LLC, and board member of nonprofit Nto Annang Foundation.

Dr. Ntuen received his bachelor's, master's, and Ph.D. from West Virginia University in Morgantown, West Virginia. He also received a national certificate in education degree in mathematics and physics from College of Education, Uyo, Nigeria.

# DR. HENRY PONDER

In 1973, Dr. Henry Ponder became president of Benedict College in Columbia, South Carolina. After an 11-year tenure at Benedict, he became the president of Fisk University in Nashville, Tennessee, for 12 years. While at Fisk, Dr. Ponder was honored as one of the “100 Most Effective College Presidents in the United States.”

When Dr. Ponder came to Fisk in 1984, the school was \$44.3 million in debt with declining enrollment, and dormitories and classes were without utilities. The Fisk board of trustees named Dr. Ponder as the first president emeritus and consultant to the university. As a gesture of love and support for Fisk, Dr. Ponder left the Eunice Wilson Ponder and Henry Ponder Endowment Fund of \$40,000 to the school.

In 1996, Dr. Ponder left Fisk University to serve as the president and chief executive officer of the National Association for Equal Opportunity in Higher Education. In early 2002, he became president of Talladega College in Alabama. While in his presidency, Dr. Ponder helped retain the 160-year-old institution’s accreditation with the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools.

Dr. Ponder retired in 2003 to live on Hilton Head Island in South Carolina with his wife of 55 years; however, he gave up retirement to return to his alma mater, Langston University, in 2010 to serve as endowed chair for the Lillian Johnson Hemmitt Endowment.

Characterized as a humble, soft-spoken man, Dr. Ponder is also known as one of the most tenacious and determined individuals to champion educational and equal opportunities. His contributions span the academic community and across the nation as a social and civic leader.

As one who gives generously of his time and talents to positively affect the lives of others, Dr. Ponder is active in numerous professional and civic activities. He is a 32nd degree Mason and served as a member of the board of several organizations, including Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, the American Council on Education, the Nashville Chapter of the United Nations Association, the United Way of Middle Tennessee, the Nashville Institute for the Arts, the Tennessee Repertory Theatre, and the Bishop Desmond Tutu Southern African Refugee Scholarship Fund. He has previously been recognized with countless outstanding awards and honors, including the OSU Alumni Association’s Distinguished Alumnus Award and the OSU Agricultural Economics Alumni Award.

Dr. Ponder received his undergraduate, master’s, and doctorate degrees from Langston University, Oklahoma State University, and the Ohio State University, respectively.



# DR. EARNESTINE PSALMONDS

Dr. Earnestine Psalmonds is a senior program officer in the Policy and Global Affairs Division, National Academies, and visiting scholar from the National Science Foundation (NSF), where she managed a \$96 million program. She served as study director for a 2009 Academies report entitled *Partnerships for Emerging Research Institutions*, and co-study director of *Expanding Underrepresented Minority Participation: America's Science and Technology Talent at the Crossroads*, a congressionally mandated study focused on the underrepresentation of minorities in science and engineering.

Dr. Psalmonds has represented NSF on interagency science and engineering workforce initiatives, including the Education and Workforce Development Subgroup of the National Science and Technology Council, and the consultation committee for the U.S. Department of Education Jacob K. Javits fellowship program. She served on the board of directors for Oak Ridge Associated Universities and was a member of the North Carolina Board for Science and Technology, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration Minority Business Resource Advisory Council, and served on the executive committee of the Council on Research Policy and Graduate Education of the Association of Public and Land Grant Universities.

Dr. Psalmonds has held administrative positions at the Georgia Institute of Technology and Georgia State University, and she became the first vice chancellor for research at North Carolina Agricultural & Technical State University. She served as principal investigator for projects funded by the National Science Foundation, National Institutes of Health, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Martin Marietta Energy Systems, Caterpillar Foundation, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and the U.S. Department of Energy.

Dr. Psalmonds has made numerous presentations, and is the co-author of copyrights to two software systems. She was honored by the Republic of Senegal through acceptance into the Order of the Lion. Dr. Psalmonds received bachelor's and master's degrees in education from Tuskegee University, and a Ph.D. in higher education leadership with a concentration in management information systems from Georgia State University.



# DR. RODERICK L. SMOTHERS

Dr. Roderick L. Smothers is a motivator, an activist, an educator, a researcher, a scholar, and a person who has committed his life to promoting access to educational, financial, physical, and spiritual success in the African-American community. Dr. Smothers' commitment to education began as an undergraduate student at Louisiana State University (LSU) in 1991. While at LSU, he pursued his academic career for three semesters until he was called to serve in Desert Shield/Desert Storm. After 15 months of proudly serving in active duty service, Dr. Smothers returned to LSU during the summer of 1993 to complete his academic endeavors.

Dr. Smothers' extensive experience in higher education includes key administrative and faculty positions in academic affairs and student affairs as well as advancement and development. Most recently, he served as vice president for institutional advancement and development at Langston University in Langston, Oklahoma, where he was responsible for public relations, major and planned giving programs, sponsored programs, the university's capital campaign, the establishment of a foundation and foundation board, and the university's community and economic development initiatives. Through his work with nonprofit organizations, federal agencies, and foundations, he has secured more than \$10 million in corporate and private funding, and he has written and/or influenced grants totaling \$50 million.

Dr. Smothers was recently named Huston-Tillotson University's vice president for institutional advancement, and in this capacity he will guide the university's fundraising efforts in addition to directing the programs and initiatives where he has a track record of success.

When he is not fundraising and relationship building for Historically Black Colleges and Universities, he pours his passion into the field of elementary and secondary education. He is a certified master trainer for the Southern Regional Education Board, and through these experiences he is provided with unique opportunities to work with urban school district leaders in transforming toxic school cultures, and teaching aspiring leaders how to effectively use data to drive their decisionmaking processes inside and outside of the classroom.

Dr. Smothers has a certification in fundraising management from the Fund Raising School at the Center on Philanthropy at Indiana University and holds active memberships in the Council for Advancement and Support of Education, American Association of Governing Boards, American Society of Public Administration, Lions Club International, and the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.

Dr. Smothers received his bachelor's degree in December of 1995; his master's degree in 1997; and a Ph.D. in educational leadership, research, and counseling, all before the age of 30.





# DR. DAVID HOLMES SWINTON

Dr. David Holmes Swinton is the 13th president of Benedict College in Columbia, South Carolina. As president, Dr. Swinton oversees all areas and departments of the 140-year-old institution, whose student population exceeds 2,500. He is recognized for his academic achievements, his intellectual excellence, and his devotion to higher education.

Dr. Swinton's professional experience includes a 7-year tenure as dean of the school of business at Jackson State University where he led the successful effort to gain accreditation for the business school from the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business. Prior to his appointment at Jackson State, he was director of the Southern Center of Studies in Public Policy and professor of economics at Clark College in Atlanta, Georgia.

Dr. Swinton is renowned for his scholarly writings, most notably his analysis of the economic status of African Americans, which has been published in the National Urban League's *The State of Black America*. His works have also been published in professional journals such as the *American Economics Review*, *Business and Society*, *Journal of Urban Analysis*, *Minority Youth Employment*, *Public Administration Review*, and *The Review of Black Political Economy*. In 2005, Dr. Swinton received the Samuel Z. Westerfield Award by the National Economic Association of African American Economists. In 2007, Dr. Swinton was inducted into the South Carolina Black Hall of Fame.

In 1998, Dr. Swinton became the Greater Columbia Chamber of Commerce's first African-American chairman of the board in the organization's 92-year history. In 1999, Dr. Swinton helped organize a group of 50 investors to create South Carolina Community Bank, to preserve the only minority-owned bank in South Carolina. Dr. Swinton has served as economic advisor to the National Urban League since 1980, and has been a member of *Black Enterprise* magazine's board of economists since 1990.

Dr. Swinton believes that students at Benedict are the school's most valued constituents and its most important product. To help ensure their success, he revised the student advising system and instituted a comprehensive retention program. The college has been named one of the top 10 producers of physics bachelor's degrees among African Americans in the United States, and was ranked number 2 in the nation in 2006.

Dr. Swinton has also been instrumental in administering the college's community development programs as well. With programs such as the U.S. Department of Labor's Welfare-to-Work, Benedict College has been able to create partnerships with local businesses and provide jobs and training to program participants.

Dr. Swinton received a B.A. in economics from New York University, and an M.A. and Ph.D. in economics from Harvard University.



# TOM ZUNIGA

Tom Zuniga is the managing director of DSG Community Management Systems, LLC, a management consulting company that specializes in community development. Mr. Zuniga has a diverse background with more than 30 years of experience in real estate development, affordable housing finance and community economic development. He is a former senior community builder at the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (1998 to 2000); executive director of the District of Columbia Housing Finance Agency (1983 to 1987); administrator of the District of Columbia Department of Housing and Community Development (1983 to 1985); senior vice president for development at the National Housing Partnership (1976 to 1980); president of Rehabitat Ltd. (1980 to 1983), a real estate development company; and vice president of development of the Pennsylvania Community Development Finance Corporation (1992 to 1994), a state intermediary. DSG works with local governments in formulating community development programs and initiatives.

Mr. Zuniga's expertise includes the formulation of various local market-driven community program initiatives that have become national models. He specializes in the financial packaging of "hard-to-do" urban revitalization projects. He has engineered the use of the New Markets Tax Credit to support the creation of community-owned investment funds. As a consultant, Mr. Zuniga has worked with federal, state, and local government agencies, housing and redevelopment authorities, community development corporations, and faith-based community development groups. He served as project manager/consultant for the development of more than 800 housing units of the Charlotte Housing Authority's Downtown Redevelopment Program.

Mr. Zuniga's successful program initiatives include: The D.C. Home Purchase Assistance program, an early national model for downpayment assistance programs; and Baltimore's Cleaning and Boarding program, which used Community Development Block Grant funds to provide contracts to nonprofit organizations to handle the cleaning and boarding of vacant properties as a job training tool for young people. He designed and currently serves as program manager/principal faculty of the professional certificate program in community real estate development at the University of South Florida, Tampa. He has also created The South Florida Veterans Services Center, to provide job creation opportunities for Florida's "hard to employ" veterans.

As a facilitator, Mr. Zuniga has assisted community organizations and board groups in visioning, identifying, and evaluating opportunities, role definition and "possibility exercises" that have led to the creation of unique strategic plans and partnerships by community based organizations.

Mr. Zuniga's education includes a bachelor's degree in economics and a master's degree in finance and marketing from Pace University, New York; a master's degree in political science from The School of International Affairs at Columbia University, New York; and a professional certificate in real estate and mortgage banking from New York University. The Clinton Administration appointed him a Community Builder Fellow to the Kennedy School at Harvard University in 1998. The Shepherds Bible College of Jacksonville, Florida, awarded him a doctoral degree in ministry and counseling in September 2009.



# JOHN TALMAGE

With more than 20 years' experience in economic development, John Talmage has developed a national reputation as a leader in innovative practices by pairing better information with capital development to create new approaches for economic development in underserved communities across the country. In the process, Mr. Talmage has been asked to serve on many national boards and committees to advocate for an asset-based approach, leading to opportunities to testify before Congress, work with the Federal Regulatory community, and join with mayors and community leaders throughout the nation to address the needs of underserved urban America.

Mr. Talmage was selected to be the president and chief executive officer of Social Compact by its board of directors in May of 2006. Under his leadership, Social Compact is scaling its market analytic, the DrillDown, to document the market strengths of communities throughout the United States and abroad. In addition to performing market analyses in inner-city neighborhoods, Social Compact conducts research projects around micromarket consumer behavior and is developing new tools and practices that contribute to innovation in the community development field. These projects are often undertaken in partnership with local leaders, community-based organizations, and financial institutions in community development, and then measured by new investments generated as a result.

Prior to joining Social Compact, Mr. Talmage served as the deputy director for economic development for the City of New Orleans. In New Orleans, he focused on business development issues, including workforce development, international trade and business recruitment and retention. Before joining the mayor's office in New Orleans, Mr. Talmage worked in New York City, primarily for the New York City Council. While in New York, he collaborated with communities throughout North Brooklyn to address economic development, housing and land-use matters.



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