

**Minutes from Listening Session with the Community and Junior College Presidents  
and  
Trustees Blakeslee, Owens, and Smith Robinson; Interim Commissioner Lucas  
Tuesday, February 24, 2009  
Mississippi State Capitol**

The following are desired characteristics of Mississippi's next Commissioner of Higher Education as articulated by the Presidents of Mississippi's Community and Junior Colleges:

- The next Commissioner is important to the future of Mississippi.
- Mississippi's community and junior colleges are a vital to Mississippi's university system.
- The articulation agreements are a vital part of that relationship.
- It is important to have a transparent transfer process.
- Mississippi's community and junior college presidents are products of Mississippi's university system. We all have a vested interest to make sure the System does well.
- The best thing the Board can do is to find a Commissioner like Aubrey Lucas—a man with Dr. Lucas' characteristics and qualities.
- We need someone we can trust; someone who values our relationship with the System.
- We need a person with the ability to work with a lot of different groups. When serious issues confront us, we all need to work together.
- We need to move Mississippi's public education system forward in a holistic way. When one is out front, that means the others are behind. We all need to work together so we all benefit. One agency should not be a priority at the detriment of others.
- We need to be pliable in our thought process.
- We need an individual with a strong student orientation.
- We need someone who knows how to communicate and include others in the conversation.