Mahalo to:

Dr. John Morton, Vice President for Community Colleges
Yvonne Yamashita, University of Hawai‘i Conference Center
Dr. Bernadine Fong, Achieving the Dream Core Team Coach
Dr. William Piland, Achieving the Dream Data Coach
The Culinary Arts Program at Kapi‘olani Community College
The Auxiliary Services and IT Technicians at Kapi‘olani Community College
Marketing and Publication Services, CRDG, College of Education, University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa
Office of the State Director for Career and Technical Education

Special Mahalo to all the presenters who shared their knowledge, wisdom, and experience:

The University of Hawai‘i Achieving the Dream Core and Data Team

UHCC: John Morton, Peter Quigley, T. Kamuela Chun, Cheryl Chappell-Long

Hawai‘i Community College: Rockne Freitas, Noe Noe Wong-Wilson, Shawn Flood, Tony Kitchen

Honolulu Community College: Michael Rota, Erika Lacro, Jan Petersen, Steven Shigemoto, Lynn Inoshita

Kapi‘olani Community College: Kauka de Silva, Kristine Korey-Smith, Yao Hill, Jeff Arbuckle

Kaua‘i Community College: Ramona Kincaid, Earl Nishiguchi, Frances Dinnan, Ilei Beniamina

Leeward Community College: Manuel Cabral, Mike Pecsok, Auli‘i Silva, Kathy Hill, Patsy Dudoit, Guy Nishimoto, Eric Chu, Charlotte Watanabe, Jeanette Dias

Maui College: Suzette Robinson, Ben Guerrero, Bradley Durad, Jean Pezzoli, Deborah Winkler

Windward Community College: Lui Hokoana, Keliko Hoe, Nalani Quinn

Hawai‘i Strategy Institute Planning Committee Members:

T. Kamuela Chun
Nina Enomoto
Joanne Itano
Kristine Korey-Smith
Erika Lacro
Louise Pagotto
Janice Petersen
Suzette Robinson
AGENDA
FRIDAY, APRIL 16, 2010

8:30 – 9:00 Registration and Continental Breakfast
9:00 – 9:05 Welcome by Louise Pagotto, Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, Kapi‘olani Community College
9:05 – 9:20 Mission and Vision by John Morton, Vice President for Community Colleges, University of Hawai‘i Community Colleges
9:20 – 10:00 Keynote Address by Dr. Verlie Ann Malina-Wright, “Preparing the Community College Family as Indigenous Global Citizens”
10:15 – 11:05 WORKSHOP 1a and 1b
10:15 – 11:45 WORKSHOP 2
11:00 – 12:00 LUNCH – Provided
12:00 – 1:30 Luncheon Address by Kareem Moody, Director of the Student Success Center Pulaski Technical College, “Empowering Students”
1:50 – 2:40 WORKSHOP 3a and 3b
1:50 – 3:20 WORKSHOP 4
2:55 – 3:45 ANNOUNCEMENTS

SATURDAY, APRIL 17, 2010

8:30 – 9:00 Registration and Continental Breakfast
9:00 – 9:05 Welcome by Suzette Robinson, Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, Maui College
9:05 – 9:20 Video Address by Peter Quigley, Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs
9:20 – 10:00 Keynote Address by Dr. Manu Meyer, “The Intelligence of Aloha”
10:15 – 11:05 WORKSHOP 5a and 5b
10:15 – 11:45 WORKSHOP 6
11:15 – 12:05 LUNCH – Provided
12:00 – 1:15 Luncheon Address by William Piland, AtD Data Coach, “Are We Moving the Needle? Evaluation Strategies to Access Educational Interventions”
1:30 – 3:00 WORKSHOP 7
1:30 – 3:45 Next Steps by Bernadine Fong, AtD Coach, “Bringing It All Together”
3:45 – 4:30 ANNOUNCEMENTS
8:30 – 10:00
GENERAL ASSEMBLY, Tent on the Great Lawn
Registration and Continental Breakfast
Welcome by Louise Pagotto, VCAA, Kapi‘olani Community College
Vision and Mission by Dr. John Morton, VPCC
Keynote Address by Verlie Ann Malina-Wright, “Preparing the Community College Family as Indigenous Global Citizens”

10:15 – 11:45
WORKSHOP SESSION 1a, various locations

“Marginalized Males, Street Culture, and College Success: A Discussion of Action”
A candid look at success data as it relates to the on and off campus challenges marginalized male students face on America’s two-year college campuses.
Presenter: Kareem Moody
Location: Manono 104

“Ke Ala ‘Ike: A Culturally Relevant Approach to Student Success”
Leeward Community College launched Halau ‘Ike o Pu’uloa: Native Hawaiian Student Support Programs in fall 2008 by leveraging institutional resources, extramural funding, and community partnerships. Halau personnel, programs, and services are proactively and creatively aligned to inspire excellence, promote growth, and advance opportunities for Native Hawaiians. A key element in the Halau’s offerings is that academic rigor and cultural engagement are regarded as co-equal priorities. Workshop participants will learn about the Halau’s unique vision, mission, organization, and evaluation methods that have been implemented at Leeward Community College. Then, using cultural concepts that can be applied universally, participants will draft a proposal for a high-quality learning environment for their college.
Presenters: Auli‘i Silva, Pi‘ikea Clark
Location: Olona 106

“The Millennial Generation: The Next Generation in College Enrollment”
Focusing on the generation born between 1982 and 2002; some 81 million children have already entered college and the workforce. This generation will replace the baby-boomers as they retire. The Millennials have different characteristics than any generation before them and in order to serve them better, K-12 education, colleges and universities have to change the way they do business. The Millennials have been plugged into technology since they were babies, are a safe generation, are very diverse and have the most educated parents of any generation before them (especially their mothers). They are the most scheduled generation ever, are true multi-taskers, expect to have 6-8 careers in their lifetime and are attracted to diverse environments. The real challenge for colleges and universities is offering programs and services using up-to-date technology, keeping them challenged and interested, and teaching students whose most consistent teacher has been a computer.
Presenter: Terri Manning
Location: Olona 202

“Dimensions of IR -- Dialogue, Design, Data, Decision-Making”
Learn how to Dialogue (plan, collaborate and work with your IR staff), Design (how to ask a researchable question than can be implemented as a strategy), Data (hands on experience in interpreting and presenting data), and Decision-Making (using data to inform and drive decision-making).
Presenter: Institutional Researchers Cadre
Location: Mokihana 101
“The Nuts and Bolts of Learning Communities”
Learn the nuts and bolts of learning communities: How they benefit Honolulu Community College, student feedback through focus group discussions, and the institutional research data on retention, persistence, and successes.
Presenters: Leon Florendo, Judy Sokei, Ina Miller-Cabasug
Location: Manele 104

10:15 – 11:05
WORKSHOP SESSION 1b, various locations

“New Student Orientation: Establishing Connections and Removing Barriers to Student Success at the University of Hawai‘i Maui College”
New Student Orientation was an intervention that ignited excitement and discussions at Maui College. Using best strategies adopted from participation in Achieving the Dream, see how New Student Orientation is conducted at Maui College and how it has led to student success through data discussions, changes in course offerings and processes, re-examination of policies, initiation of assertive advising, and mandatory placement testing.
Presenters: Benjamin Guerrero, Francine Ching
Location: Kalia 102

“Kuhololoa: Center for Ocean Exploration; Voyage of Learning at Honolulu Community College”
Learn about the voyaging program at Honolulu Community College; its partnership with the Polynesian Voyaging Society; how the courses intertwine science and traditional knowledge; and navigating towards a healthy future.
Presenters: Ka‘iulani Murphy, Keala Chock
Location: Kalia 202

“Helping Immigrant Students Access the Dream”
An opportunity to discuss Hawai‘i’s immigrant students; the policies and practices that they must navigate to gain access to the dream; and strategies for serving them under the Kapi‘olani Community College’s Achieving the Dream Initiative.
Presenters: Shawn Ford, Frank Noji
Location: Manono 110

11:10 – 12:00
WORKSHOP SESSION 2, various locations

“Using SARS to Track and Report on the Success of Native Hawaiian Students”
SARS is a scheduling program that Learning Centers can use to report on the impact of tutoring and other services. The capabilities and limits of the system will be discussed.
Presenters: Earl Nishiguchi, Kimo Perry
Location: Kalia 202

“Getting Clear: Lessons Learned from Developing a Comprehensive Course SLO”
A look at how the presenter transformed a well-intentioned but rather disorganized Developmental Psychology course into an organized whole by developing comprehensive Student Learner Outcomes. Using discussion and brainstorming, participants will explore taking a similar step.
Presenter: BK Griesemer
Location: Kalia 102

12:00 – 1:30
LUNCH, Tent on the Great Lawn
Lunch will be served under the Tent
Luncheon Address by Kareem Moody, “Empowering Students”

1:50 – 3:20
WORKSHOP SESSION 3a, various locations

“Importance of Gatekeeper courses, Faculty Who Teach Them and a New Way of Viewing Their Purpose”
Focus is on the increasing importance of gatekeeper courses and their ability to increase retention and success. Accrediting agencies are increasingly more interested in college-level competencies in the general education core courses. This session will focus on using Achieving the Dream strategies to improve gatekeeper courses and at the same times, satisfy accrediting agencies.
Presenter: Dr. Terri Manning
Location: Olona 208
“Naming the Dream: Self-Expression to Self-Determination”

There is a correlation between students’ positive affective response and subsequent academic success in national initiatives, such as FYE in which faculty and staff participates in the students’ transition into college. Student affective response has not been a central consideration in the traditional classroom. This presentation will focus on developing a pedagogy of caring, of malama, which is place-based and engages the community of learners.

*Presenters: Reid Sunahara, Sharoh Moore, Jane Calfee*
*Location: Olona 106*

“Marginalized Males, Street Culture, and College Success: A Discussion of Action” (Repeat)

A candid look at success data as it relates to the on and off campus challenges marginalized male students face on America’s two-year college campuses.

*Presenter: Kareem Moody*
*Location: Olona 202*

“Ke Ala ‘Ike: A Culturally Relevant Approach to Student Success”

Leeward Community College launched Halau ‘Ike o Pu’uloa: Native Hawaiian Student Support Programs in fall 2008 by leveraging institutional resources, extramural funding, and community partnerships. Halau personnel, programs, and services are proactively and creatively aligned to inspire excellence, promote growth, and advance opportunities for Native Hawaiians. A key element in the Halau’s offerings is that academic rigor and cultural engagement are regarded as co-equal priorities. Workshop participants will learn about the Halau’s unique vision, mission, organization, and evaluation methods that have been implemented at Leeward Community College. Then, using cultural concepts that can be applied universally, participants will draft a proposal for a high-quality learning environment for their college.

*Presenters: Auli‘i Silva, Pi‘ikea Clark*
*Location: Olona 105*

1:50 – 2:40

**WORKSHOP SESSION 3b, various locations**

“What Works in Student Retention”

On April 1, 2010, the ACT Company released a report updating its 2004 study on successful retention strategies in two-year public colleges. Come hear the latest survey results from thousands of colleges nationwide.

*Presenter: Stephanie Lewis*
*Location: Kalia 102*

“Kuhololoa: Center for Ocean Exploration; Voyage of Learning at Honolulu Community College” (Repeat)

Learn about the voyaging program at Honolulu Community College; its partnership with the Polynesian Voyaging Society; how the courses intertwine science and traditional knowledge; and navigating towards a healthy future.

*Presenters: Ka‘iulani Murphy, Keala Chock*
*Location: Kalia 202*

“Data Driven Dynamics – A Tidal Wave of Change at Hawai‘i Community College”

In today’s ever-changing world, new procedures and methods are being developed to improve the efficiency and accuracy of data collection. There are three primary pieces that together form a triangle of astounding strength, balance and efficiency: Accurate and clean data + Efficient transcripts + STAR. In combination, these three items alone are producing unprecedented new information being collected and utilized on a daily basis at Hawai‘i Community College.

*Presenter: David Loeding, Joy Nishida*
*Location: Kalia 203*

“Accessing Data in the University of Hawai‘i”

In today’s community college, we are asked to provide data in developing programs, strategies, and policies. Learn where to look for data in the University of Hawai‘i and how to access it for your needs.

*Presenter: Guy Nishimoto*
*Location: Naio 203*
2:55 – 3:45
WORKSHOP SESSION 4, various locations

“What’s in Achieving the Dream Data?”
Online access to the five AtD Goals at the UHCC system level and individual college level. Includes a review of the data submitted to Achieving the Dream. Additionally, will review the Additional Gatekeeper courses across the University of Hawai’i Community Colleges System.

Presenter: Cheryl Chappell-Long
Location: Naio 203

“What Using SARS to Track and Report on the Success of Native Hawaiian Students” (Repeat)
SARS is a scheduling program that Learning Centers can use to report on the impact of tutoring and other services. The capabilities and limits of the system will be discussed.

Presenters: Earl Nishiguchi, Kimo Perry
Location: Kalia 203

“What Works in Student Retention” (Repeat)
On April 1, 2010, the ACT Company released a report updating its 2004 study on successful retention strategies in two-year public colleges. Come hear the latest survey results from thousands of colleges nationwide.

Presenter: Stephanie Lewis
Location: Kalia 102

“New Student Orientation: Establishing Connections and Removing Barriers to Student Success at the University of Hawai’i Maui College” (Repeat)
New Student Orientation was an intervention that ignited excitement and discussions at Maui College. Using best strategies adopted from participation in Achieving the Dream, see how New Student Orientation is conducted at Maui College and how it has led to student success through data discussions, changes in course offerings and processes, re-examination of policies, initiation of assertive advising, and mandatory placement testing.

Presenters: Benjamin Guerrero, Francine Ching
Location: Kalia 104

3:50 – 4:00
ANNOUNCEMENTS, Tent on the Great Lawn
8:30 – 10:00
GENERAL ASSEMBLY, Tent on the Great Lawn
Registration and Continental Breakfast
Welcome by Suzette Robinson, VCAA, Maui College
Video Address: Dr. Peter Quigley, Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs
Keynote Address: Dr. Manulani Meyers, “The Intelligence of Aloha”

10:15 – 11:45
WORKSHOP SESSION 5a, various locations

“Kea’au Middle College: ATD and a 21st Century Education”
Learn how Kea’au Middle College takes high school seniors at-risk of graduating into a 21st Century learning environment which involves an integrated team-teaching approach, hands-on skill-building in technology, project-based learning, and community engagement in a dual credit—high school and college—curriculum which effectively closes the achievement gap.

Presenter: Trina Nahm-Mijo
Location: Kalia 201

“Learning Outcomes Assessment; Getting Ready for the Reaffirmation of Accreditation”
Training for faculty and staff on the “nuts and bolts” of outcome assessment; helping colleges develop effective learning and program outcomes; and developing appropriate assessment processes.

Presenter: Terri Manning
Location: Kalia 203

“Strategies for Assessing Learning Outcomes on Multiple Campuses”
Three strategies will be presented that faculty can use to assess learning outcomes for articulated courses at different campuses. There will also be a discussion on the pedagogical value to be gained from gathering system-wide data.

Presenter: Tanya Renner, Nani Azman
Location: Olona 201

Three Ways to Experience Life: A Hawaiian Way of Learning; Mana’o ‘i’o, Mana’o lana, Aloha

Presenter: Manu Meyer
Location: Olona 202

10:15 – 11:05
WORKSHOP SESSION 5b, various locations

“What’s in Achieving the Dream Data?” (Repeat)
Online access to the five ATD Goals at the UHCC system level and individual college level. Includes a review of the data submitted to Achieving the Dream. Additionally, will review the Additional Gatekeeper courses across the University of Hawai‘i Community Colleges System.

Presenter: Cheryl Chappell-Long
Location: Naio 203

“Data Driven Dynamics – A Tidal Wave of Change at Hawai‘i Community College” (Repeat)
In today’s ever-changing world, new procedures and methods are being developed to improve the efficiency and accuracy of data collection. There are three primary pieces that together form a triangle of astounding strength, balance and efficiency: Accurate and clean data + Efficient transcripts + STAR. In combination, these three items alone are producing unprecedented new information being collected and utilized on a daily basis at Hawai‘i Community College.

Presenter: David Loeding, Joy Nishida
Location: Kalia 104
“Improving Student Success in Physics”
Learn about new strategies that have proven to improve student success in a range of Physics courses, including PHYS 100 and PHYS 170, with accompanying labs. The presenters will discuss the delivery of physics labs through open lab periods, support for students through peer-led study sessions, enhancement of instruction through online activities, among others strategies.

**Presenters:** Maria Bautista, Herve Collin  
**Location:** Kalia 102

“Lessons Learned from the National Conference on Community College Student Success & Retention”
Overview of the Best Practices in Community College Success in Retention learned at the National Conference on Community College Student Success and Retention. The main tenets are data-driven change based on four pillars of intake and commitment, peer support, involvement in academic life, and student-faculty interaction. The presenter will share her learning and provide resource information for those who want additional depth in any of the specific areas or initiatives.

**Presenter:** Emily Ann Kukulies  
**Location:** Olona 106

11:15 – 12:05  
**WORKSHOP SESSION 6, various locations**

“Improving Student Success in Physics” (Repeat)
Learn about new strategies that have proven to improve student success in a range of Physics courses, including PHYS 100 and PHYS 170, with accompanying labs. The presenters will discuss the delivery of physics labs through open lab periods, support for students through peer-led study sessions, enhancement of instruction through online activities, among others strategies.

**Presenters:** Maria Bautista, Herve Collin  
**Location:** Kalia 102

“Ha‘akumalae: Into the Center of Knowing”
“Ha‘akumalae: Into the Center of Knowing” is an initiative for bridging communities through the articulation of Hawaiian epistemology or ways of knowing. Utilizing Hawai‘i’s natural landscape, images, stories and technology, Ha‘akumalae immerses the learner (teacher) in Hawaiian concepts, imagery, and practices that help to center their consciousness in Hawai‘i’s piko or centers of knowledge and understanding.

**Presenters:** Dr. Taupouri Tangaro, Kekuhi Kealiikanakaoleohaililani, M.A. and Noe Noe Wong-Wilson, M.A.  
**Location:** Kalia 202

“Getting Clear: Lessons Learned from Developing a Comprehensive Course SLO”
A look at how the presenter transformed a well-intentioned but rather disorganized Developmental Psychology course into an organized whole by developing comprehensive Student Learner Outcomes. Using discussion and brainstorming, participants will explore taking a similar step.

**Presenter:** BK Griesemer  
**Location:** Kalia 104

“Lessons Learned from the National Conference on Community College Student Success & Retention” (Repeat)
Overview of the Best Practices in Community College Success in Retention learned at the National Conference on Community College Student Success & Retention. The main tenets are data driven change based on four pillars of: Intake & Commitment, Peer Support, Involvement in Academic Life and Student-Faculty Interaction. The presenter will share her learning and provide resource information for those who want additional depth in any of the specific areas or initiatives.

**Presenter:** Emily Ann Kukulies  
**Location:** Olona 106

12:00 – 1:15  
**LUNCH**
Lunch will be served under the Tent  
**Luncheon Address by Dr. William Piland, “Are we moving the needle? Evaluation Strategies to Access Educational Interventions”**

1:30 – 3:00  
**WORKSHOP SESSION 7, various locations**

Hawai‘i Strategy Institute Action Plan Development
Participants will work by college to create a plan to design and implement a strategy in participants’ practice that will improve student success.
Expected Outcomes for this afternoon:

1. The targeted course/activity has been identified
2. The targeted strategy has been identified
3. The data upon which the selection of the course & the strategy has been made is identified.
4. The resources necessary to implement the strategy have been identified.
5. The measures of success have been identified.
6. The timeline for implementation have been identified.

Expected Outcomes for 2010-2011

1. Participants will design and implement a strategy in Fall 2010
2. Participants will analyze results of the implementation and report results at Hawai‘i Strategy Institute II in Spring 2011

Meeting by college:
- Hawai‘i Community College, Kalia 104
- Honolulu Community College, Kalia 201
- Kapi‘olani Community College, Kalia 203
- Kaua‘i Community College, Olona 105
- Leeward Community College, Olona 201
- Maui College, Olona 202
- Windward Community College, Olona 208

3:15 – 3:55
General Assembly, Tent on the Great Lawn

Next Steps by Dr. Bernadine Fong, “Bringing It All Together”

Acknowledgements

MAHALO

Mahalo everyone for your participation in the Hawai‘i Strategy Institute. We hope you find the information shared and the discussions that ensued are helpful in your work to ensure the best learning environment for our students. We wish you the best in developing your plans for the fall 2010. We are look forward to learning about your results at next year’s institute.

You can help us make next year’s institute better by filling out an online evaluation at http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/2010HSI.

Mahalo again and see you next year,
The Hawai‘i Strategy Institute Planning Committee
Verlie Ann Leimomi Kapule Malina-Wright, Ed.D is the first member of her family to earn a college degree, has held teacher and administrative positions in the field of education ranging from preschool to Ph.D, and was the first Hawaiian to serve as the Board President of the National Indian Education Association.

Dr. Malina-Wright has been in the education service for over 40 years, including careers at both Kamehameha Schools and for the Hawai‘i State Department of Education. While at Kamehameha Schools, she held the position of Director of Career Services, Director of Continuing Education Programs, and Director of Employment Training and Research. She was the Vice Principal at Ke Kula Kaiapuni ‘O Anuenue, a K-12 Hawaiian Language Immersion School. Throughout her career in the Hawai‘i Department of Education, Dr. Malina-Wright taught in elementary, secondary, adult and higher education.

Dr. Malina-Wright received her M.Ed and BBA from the College of Education at the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa, and her Ed.D at UCLA. Dr. Malina-Wright is also prominent in her community service, spanning from projects in Alaska, Washington, DC, Minnesota, Hawai‘i and New Zealand. Dr. Malina-Wright has received recognition and awards from Delta Kappa Gamma – Beta Beta State Chapter (Hawai‘i), National Indian Education Association (NIEA), Hawai‘i State Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs, and the World Indigenous Nations – Higher Education Consortium (WINHEC).

Terri M. Manning, Ed.D. is the Associate Vice President for Institutional Research and the Director of the Center for Applied Research at Central Piedmont Community College (CPCC). She received her doctorate in higher education with an emphasis in health behavior from Oklahoma State University in 1990. She has been at CPCC for since 1998. Before that she was fulltime graduate faculty at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte where she taught research methods, assessment, and program planning and evaluation. Currently, Dr. Manning is a data facilitator for three Achieving the Dream colleges ad has been working with the initiative since round two. She also wrote the guide on Using Achieving the Dream to Meet Accreditation Requirements.

Dr. Manning is a speaker/trainer on all subjects related to institutional effectiveness and specializes in helping college prepare for reaffirmation. She has done institutional effectiveness consulting with multiple colleges needing corrective actions after an unsuccessful accreditation visit and serves on visiting teams for the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. She hosts an annual Institute on Best Practices in Institutional Effectiveness where college faculty and staff are trained in sound institutional effectiveness processes/practices.

Dr. Manning is also a national speaker on the millennial generation having delivered keynote presentations at the League for Innovation Conference on Information Technology, the annual convention of the American Association of Community College, the Achieving the Dream Strategy Institute, multiple international business meetings and as an opening convocation speaker for community colleges. She also conducts a hands-on workshop for faculty on teaching strategies.

Manulani Aluli Meyer, Ed.D is an Associate Professor with the University of Hawai‘i at Hilo Education Department. She has been an educator for over 28 years with the University of Hawai‘i educational system as well as a Teaching Fellow with the Harvard University Graduate School of Education, a Staff Instructor and Teacher with the Cambridge Peace and Justice Corps, and Assistant Director with Na Pua No’eau and so much more. She received her Ed.D. in Philosophy of Education in 1998 from the Harvard University Graduate School of Education. Dr. Meyer serves on numerous committees, to name a few, ‘Ike ‘Aina: The Native Hawaiian Land Trust; DOE Hawaiian Studies Task Force; Civic Forum on Public Education; President, Ho‘oulu Lahui Board (Kua O Ka La Charter School, Puna), and ‘Ike A‘o Founder (Quality Education and Sustainable Communities Project). She also served as a member on several international indigenous accreditation teams under the World Indigenous Higher Education Consortium (WINHEC).

Dr. Meyer’s work is focused on epistemology, the branch of philosophy that asks the questions: What is knowledge, what is intelligence? She is establishing that indigenous people have a unique style of experiencing the world via cultural practices, land/ocean connection, and family relationships. She is author of Ho‘oulu: Our Time of Becoming and the forthcoming Hawaiian Knowing.

Kareem Moody is the Director for the Network for Student Success at Pulaski Technical College. This is a federally funded initiative designed to engage African American and other minority males in positive college experiences. He is also the Program Director for Positive Atmosphere Reaches Kids, a not-for-profit organization involved with youth development. He authored Raise Them up: the Real Deal on Reaching Unreachable Kids, a book geared toward helping parents better relate to their children. He was educated at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock, Henderson State University, and Leadership Greater Little Rock Class 23.