

1 Introduction

10-01-2020 Updated College History
05-27-2020 Updated College History, Updated Board of Trustees Contact Info
01-02-2020 Updated College History
09-03-2019 Updated College History
06-26-2019 Updated College History
04-30-2019 Added Values statement, Updated Board of Trustees Member List
05-22-2018 Update College History

ALABAMA COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM

The Alabama Community College System's mission is to provide a unified system of institutions dedicated to excellence in delivering academic education, adult education, and workforce development.

The first public two-year college in Alabama - a state-operated trade school - opened in 1925. Private two-year colleges can be traced back to the late-1800s. Development of a system of state two-year colleges did not start until the early 1960s. In 1963, the Alabama Legislature passed *Act No. 94*, which empowered the State Board of Education to make policy and govern state junior colleges and private junior colleges that received public money. The State Superintendent of Education was given authority over these colleges. Alabama experienced a significant change in public education governance in 1969 when a constitutional amendment passed that replaced the system of an elected State Superintendent and a State Board of Education appointed by the Governor with an elected state school board that appoints the State Superintendent. The Governor was President of the state school board under both systems.

Initially, State Department of Education administrator Rudolph Davidson headed the Division of Research and Higher Education, which included the two-year colleges. Frank Speed was appointed acting director in July 1969 after Davidson resigned. Speed's appointment became permanent in March 1970. In 1976, after Dr. T. L. Faulkner succeeded Speed, the State Superintendent created a separate Division of Postsecondary Education headed by Dr. Joe Miller. Later, Dr. William Osborn served as director of the Division of Postsecondary Education; still later, two-year colleges - by then including Athens State and the Alabama Industrial Development Training Institute - were under the direction of Assistant State Superintendent for Postsecondary Services Erskine Murray and later by Dr. George Layton.

On May 4, 1982, the Alabama Legislature approved a bill that created the Department of Postsecondary Education as a separate state agency governed by the State Board of Education and provided authority for appointing a Chancellor. On July 2, 1982, the State Board of Education appointed Dr. Howard Gundy as the Department's first Chancellor. Some employees of the former Postsecondary Education division of the State Department of Education were assigned to assist Dr. Gundy. From July 2, 1982 to October 20, 1983, Dr. Gundy's leadership resulted in the establishment of department operational procedures and relocation to the Department's first facility separate from the State Department of Education. After Dr. Gundy's retirement, Vice Chancellor Lyte Darrow was placed in charge of the Department until December 1, 1983, when Dr. Charles Payne was appointed Chancellor. Dr. Payne organized the Department into functional divisions and established a Department policy manual. After his resignation, the State Board of Education appointed Dr. Fred Gainous as Chancellor effective March 12, 1988. During his 14 years of service, Dr. Gainous is credited with reducing the number of lower division two-year colleges, for eliminating racial issues that once plagued the System, for his focus on the delivery of quality educational services, and his continuing emphasis on access to postsecondary education. He also guided the System's transition from the quarter system to the semester system. Dr. Gainous resigned as the System's longest-serving Chancellor in May, 2002 to become President of Florida A&M University, his alma mater. The State Board of Education appointed Dr. Roy W. Johnson as Chancellor effective July 1, 2002. On August 24, 2006, the State Board of Education appointed Interim Chancellor Dr. Thomas E. Corts. The State Board of Education appointed Mr. Bradley Byrne as the system Chancellor effective May 24, 2007. He was succeeded by Dr. Freida H. Hill who took office on December 1, 2009. She was followed by Dr. Mark A. Heinrich who was appointed as Chancellor effective September 21, 2012. In 2015, the passage of *Alabama Act No. 2015-125* placed the Alabama Community College System under the governance control of the newly created Alabama Community College System Board of Trustees. On April 1, 2017, Mr. Jimmy H. Baker was appointed Chancellor following the retirement of Dr. Heinrich.

ALABAMA COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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Telephone (251) 937-2941

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Mr. Jeffery Newman, Ex-Officio Member newmanjef@hotmail.com
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(An updated list is maintained at the Alabama Community College System website <https://www.accs.edu>)

HISTORY OF THE COLLEGE

Lurleen B. Wallace Community College

On January 23, 2003 the Alabama State Board of Education took official action to merge Lurleen B. Wallace Junior College and MacArthur State Technical College. Dr. Edward Meadows was appointed President on that date, with the responsibility of providing leadership to bring about the consolidation of the two colleges to create Lurleen B. Wallace Community College. The Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) recognized the two institutions as a singly accredited community college in December, 2003. The Alabama State Board of Education took final action regarding the merger in December, 2003, and the U.S. Department of Education recognized the two colleges as a single institution in January, 2004. The successful consolidation resulted in a multi-campus, comprehensive community college serving the counties of Butler, Crenshaw, Coffee, Covington, and Geneva, Alabama. Campuses are located in Andalusia, Greenville, and Opp, and an instructional center is located in Luverne.

In 2004, a ten-year *Facilities Master Plan* was developed to facilitate the programmatic growth of the College as a result of the consolidation and expanded mission of the College. Major renovations and new construction were undertaken at the Andalusia and MacArthur campuses to accommodate new programs and courses. In 2005, construction of a 30,000 square foot technology center was initiated on the Greenville campus to facilitate the expanded comprehensive mission of that campus.

In January 2006, the College established a center in Luverne with the primary function of offering adult education and training for business and industry. Classes were held in the former National Guard Armory which was leased from the Armory Commission. The State Board of Education approved the purchase of the Luverne facility in July 2007. In February 2015, SACSCOC gave its approval to offer complete programs of the College at this center.

In October, 2006, the Vermelle Evers Donaldson Cosmetic Arts Center was dedicated on the MacArthur Campus. In November, 2007, the College celebrated the completion of two new buildings: the Child Development Center on the Andalusia Campus and the Technology Building on the Greenville Campus.

Dr. Meadows retired as President in August, 2008 and Mr. L. Wayne Bennett served as Interim President of the College until December 31, 2008. On January 1, 2009, Dr. Herbert H. J. Riedel began his service as President of Lurleen B. Wallace Community College.

The Wendell Mitchell Conference Center on the Greenville Campus was completed in August, 2009. Renovations to the Luverne Center were completed in 2009 as well. This year also saw completion and implementation of the College's five-year *Strategic Plan*.

Renovation to the Martha and Solon Dixon Center for the Performing Arts entrance was completed in 2010 and a landscape enhancement plan for the Andalusia Campus was developed. The first phase was completed in 2012, and included a drop-off area in front of the performing arts center, an enhanced streetscape along Dannelly Boulevard with improved drainage, new curbs, angled parking, more than 40 new trees, and additional attractive street lighting. A concrete patio with picnic tables and benches was also added in front of the Jeff Bishop Student Center as a place for students to sit and relax outdoors.

A collaborative effort between LBWCC, the LBWCC Foundation, and local, state, and national government entities resulted in the creation of Saints Hall in 2013, a Foundation-owned student housing apartment complex adjacent to the Andalusia campus. This collaboration resulted in the College being named a 2014 Bellwether Award Finalist by the Community College Futures Assembly.

In 2015, following the passage of *Alabama Act No. 2015-125*, LBWCC was placed under the governance control of the newly created Alabama Community College System Board of Trustees. That same year, LBWCC celebrated the 50th anniversary of providing higher education in South Alabama.

In 2016, LBWCC received a five-year, \$2.25 million grant under the U.S. Department of Education's Title III "Strengthening Institutions" program. This grant is designed to improve academic and student services and includes online advising and early intervention tools, success coaches, and resources for starting a new Physical Therapist Assistant program.

In 2017, the College's federally funded Upward Bound program was not refunded and ceased operation. However, a grassroots community effort secured sufficient local funds to start a new program, called Apex, that serves the same population of high school students to prepare them for college success.

As a result of several initiatives contained in the 2014-2019 Strategic Plan, LBWCC won national recognition in 2018 as an AACC Awards of Excellence finalist in Student Success, based on exceptional increases in fall to fall retention, graduation rates, and other measures.

The members of the Douglas MacArthur State Technical College Foundation (DMSTCF) and the Lurleen B. Wallace Community College Foundation (LBWCCF) voted in May 2019 to merge the DMSTCF into the LBWCCF. The combined Foundation will administer endowed scholarship funds from both prior foundations and raise money to support students at all locations of LBWCC.

On June 12, 2019, the ACCS Board of Trustees authorized LBWCC to enter into an agreement with the LBWCC Foundation for the lease, operation, and management of the Foundation's student residential property known as Saints Hall. Under the terms of this agreement, the College has the option to purchase the housing complex for a nominal amount at the end of the United States Department of Agriculture loan, on January 8, 2044.

Following the retirement of Dr. Herbert H. J. Riedel, the Alabama Community College System appointed Mr. Bryan Helms as Acting President of Lurleen B. Wallace Community College on September 3, 2019. Mr. Helms served in this role until December 31, 2019. Effective January 2, 2020, The Alabama Community College System appointed Dr. Chris Cox as Interim President of Lurleen B. Wallace Community College.

LBWCC's 2020-2025 Strategic Plan was approved by the College's Executive Council on February 11, 2020. The goals and objectives in this document will serve as a roadmap to guide the College over the next several years.

Dr. Chris Cox completed his tenure as LBWCC's Interim President on September 30, 2020. Dr. Brock Kelley began his appointment as Interim President of Lurleen B. Wallace Community College on October 1, 2020. Dr. Kelley will serve in this role until a permanent President is named at the completion of the presidential search process.

Douglas MacArthur State Technical College

On May 2, 1963, Governor George C. Wallace announced that Opp would be the site of a postsecondary technical institution that would serve five South Alabama counties. A local committee chaired by Opp City Schools Superintendent Vernon L. St. John directed plans for the construction of the school one mile north of downtown Opp on a 100 acre campus provided by the City of Opp and the Covington County Board of Revenue. Mr. E.C. Nevin, then principal of Kinston High School, was appointed President.

On November 22, 1965, Douglas MacArthur State Technical College opened its doors, admitting 116

students in twelve departments. The campus consisted of four buildings, the George C. Wallace Administration Building and three shop buildings. In the next several years, six additional buildings were added to the campus. These were the Gaines Ray Jeffcoat Building, the Vernon L. St. John Building, the Henry R. Donaldson-Bennie Foreman Building, the E. Claude Nevin Building, an electronics building and the Student Center.

Mr. E. Claude Nevin retired in December of 1982, and Dr. Raymond V. Chisum was appointed President in January of 1983. The Raymond V. Chisum Health Sciences Building was added in 1996. After Dr. Chisum's retirement in August of 1996, Mr. L. Wayne Bennett was named Interim President and served until the merger with Lurleen B. Wallace Junior College in January of 2003.

Lurleen B. Wallace Junior College

On December 14, 1967, the Alabama State Board of Education authorized the development of a junior college to be located in Andalusia, Alabama. A Junior College Executive Committee was organized and over \$100,000 was raised locally to purchase land and provide initial capital to start a new college to better serve Butler, Covington, and Crenshaw counties.

On August 15, 1968, the State Board of Education named the College the Lurleen Burns Wallace State Junior College, in honor of the former Governor. Dr. William H. McWhorter was appointed the first president. In September of 1969, the College opened in the Bethune School, a temporary location leased from the Covington County Board of Education. In May of 1970, the College moved to its new campus consisting of 112 acres, an administration/classroom building and physical education dressing rooms.

The 160-acre Andalusia Campus consists of nine buildings, six lighted tennis courts, a lighted baseball field, a lighted softball field, a two-mile scenic trail, a nine-hole golf course and driving range, and expansive parking. Dr. and Mrs. Solon Dixon of Andalusia, Alabama, through the Solon and Martha Dixon Foundation, have provided more than \$3 million through the years for facility development, such as the Solon and Martha Dixon Center for the Performing Arts and the Dixon Conference Center.

On August 31, 1990, Dr. William H. McWhorter retired and Dr. James D. Krudop was named as Interim President until February 1, 1991, when Mr. Seth Hammett was selected as the new President. At this time, Lurleen B. Wallace Junior College moved into a new phase of growth and development. Extensive renovation, remodeling, and refurbishing of the infrastructure for the College took place. Twenty-six major projects were undertaken at a value of approximately one million dollars with a major portion of the funds being made available by the Solon and Martha Dixon Foundation.

On October 6, 1992, groundbreaking ceremonies took place for construction of a new 11,300 square foot facility on seventeen acres of property in Greenville, Alabama. This facility opened for classes in the fall of 1993.

President Hammett retired in June of 2002, and Dr. James D. Krudop served as Interim President until the merger with Douglas MacArthur State Technical College in January of 2003.

COLLEGE MISSION

Teaching. Learning. Growing. Enriching. Lurleen B. Wallace Community College offers opportunities for learning and growth by providing academic and technical instruction, workforce development, adult and continuing education, and cultural enrichment.

VISION STATEMENT

As a leader in accessible, innovative education and training for a diverse community, Lurleen B. Wallace Community College will be the institution of choice for student access.

VALUES STATEMENT

Accessibility

We provide affordable academic, technical, and workforce programs with multiple class formats and flexible scheduling at several locations.

Community

We enhance the culture and strengthen the economy in our local communities through civic engagement and strategic partnerships.

Diversity

We value the individuality of students and employees and believe that inclusion enriches the educational experience and the college environment.

Excellence

We embrace quality by continuously improving instructional programs, administrative processes, and student services.

Success

We foster success through support networks that create opportunities for student achievement.

COLLEGE SERVICE AREA

(Butler, Coffee, Covington, Crenshaw, and Geneva Counties)



WORK SCHEDULES, DUTY DAYS AND HOLIDAYS

The College follows the *Alabama Community College System Board of Trustees Policy 608.02: Work Schedules, Duty Days, and Holidays*.

Each institution operates at least forty (40) hours per week. The President of each institution has the authority to determine work schedules and work days for all employees of the institution.

PROCEDURE:

Employees shall be allowed the following official holidays on which days the institutions shall be closed:

- New Year's Day
- Martin Luther King/Robert E. Lee Birthday
- National Memorial Day
- Independence Day
- Labor Day
- Veterans Day
- Thanksgiving Day
- Day after Thanksgiving Day
- Christmas Eve
- Christmas Day

In addition, the President of each institution shall designate five other days on which the institution will be closed in the official, approved calendar of the institution.

The normal work week for full-time, non-instructional personnel employed by System institutions is at least forty (40) hours, exclusive of lunch. Days that the institution is officially open are duty days for full time, non-instructional employees of each institution.

The normal work week of a full-time instructor, librarian, or counselor shall be a minimum of 35 clock hours, exclusive of lunch and other regularly scheduled breaks. This does not mean that each instructor is to be on duty seven hours per day, but it does mean that each instructor is to have a regular schedule of instruction, office hours, advising, planning, and institutional duties.

Full-time instructors, librarians, and counselors employed on an academic year contract (fall and spring semesters) shall work the equivalent of 175 days or 1225 hours. Full-time instructors, librarians, and counselors employed on a twelve-month contract shall work the equivalent of 229 days or 1603 hours. Those employed full-time for the summer shall work the equivalent of 54 days or 378 hours.

COLLEGE OFFICE HOURS

<u>Adult Education Office</u>	8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.	Monday through Thursday
	8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	Friday
<u>Bookstore</u>	As posted	
<u>Business Office</u>	7:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.	Monday through Thursday
	7:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	Friday
<u>Division Chairs/Faculty</u>	Posted on office door	
<u>Greenville Campus</u>	7:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.	Monday through Thursday
	7:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	Friday
<u>Human Resources</u>	8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.	Monday through Thursday
	8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	Friday
<u>Instructional Services</u>	7:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.	Monday through Thursday
	8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	Friday
<u>Learning Resource Center</u>	<u>Andalusia Campus</u>	
	7:45 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.	Monday through Thursday
	8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	Friday
	<u>Greenville Campus</u>	
	8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.	Monday through Thursday
	<u>Luverne Center</u>	
	7:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.	Monday through Thursday
	<u>MacArthur Campus</u>	
	7:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.	Monday through Thursday
	7:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	Friday
<u>Luverne Center</u>	7:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.	Monday through Thursday
	8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	Friday
<u>Student Services Office</u>	7:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.	Monday through Thursday
	8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	Friday
<u>Testing Center</u>	As scheduled	

HOW TO CONTACT LBWCC FOR INFORMATION

General mailing addresses, phone numbers, and fax numbers for each of the Lurleen B. Wallace Community College locations are shown below. When calling the main phone number, (334) 222-6591, you will be prompted by our answering system to enter the extension number of the person to whom you wish to speak. A directory of College personnel, which includes extension numbers and e-mail addresses, can be accessed from the College's website by using the following link http://www.lbwcc.edu/phoneemail_directory.aspx.

Andalusia Campus
P. O. Drawer 1418
Andalusia, AL 36420
ph (334) 222-6591
fax (334) 881-2300

Greenville Campus
750 Greenville By-Pass
Greenville, AL 36037
ph (334) 382-2133
fax (334) 382-2215

MacArthur Campus
P. O. Drawer 910
Opp, AL 36467
ph (334) 493-3573
fax (334) 493-7003

Luverne Center
886 Glenwood Road
Luverne, AL 36049
ph (334) 335-2187
fax (334) 335-2057