

January 16, 2002

«Prefix» «Fname» «Lname»  
«Chamber»  
«Address»  
«City», Mississippi «Zip»

Dear «Office» «Lname»:

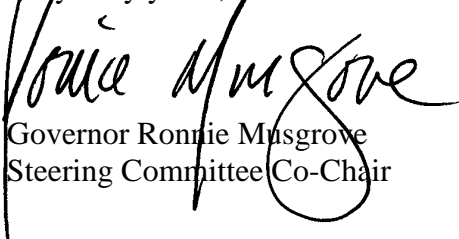
We are very pleased to provide you with a copy of *Building Opportunity in Mississippi Through Higher Education*, a forward-looking and goal-oriented agenda for all of our colleges and universities -- public and private, as well as two-year and four-year institutions. *Building Opportunity in Mississippi Through Higher Education* is focused on six major priorities recommending what higher education can do to advance our state.

Since May, a broad-based 45-member steering committee of Mississippians, including Lieutenant Governor Amy Tuck and Speaker Tim Ford, has guided and overseen the process to develop this report. The Center for Public Higher Education Trusteeship and Governance at the Association of Governing Boards of Universities and Colleges facilitated our process.

*Building Opportunity in Mississippi Through Higher Education* was formally released at the Leadership Summit on Higher Education held on January 7, 2002. We believe that it will help advance Mississippi's competitiveness and improve the quality of life of our citizens. The leadership summit brought together Mississippi leaders of state government, the business community, and higher education, as well as other civic leaders of our state.

Partners and advocates from all corners of Mississippi will be necessary if this agenda is to have its desired positive effects and advance Mississippi. We hope you will join us in support of this public agenda for higher education.

Very truly yours,



Governor Ronnie Musgrove  
Steering Committee Co-Chair



Aubrey Patterson  
Steering Committee Co-Chair