
OFFICE OF GOVERNOR RONNIE MUSGROVE
INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: GOVERNOR
FROM: RILEY
SUBJECT: HIGHER EDUCATION LEADERSHIP SUMMIT
DATE 2/27/01
CC: COLE
SIMMONS

Dr. Cole has provided you with a memo dated 2/22/01 regarding the Association of Governing Boards of Universities and Colleges' request for you to co-chair the first in the nation State Leadership Summit on Education. The Association has invited Dwight Evans to co-chair this summit with you. This summit would bring together state and local policymakers, leaders of higher education and business communities, and other key stakeholders to answer the following 2 key questions:

- What are the state's major priorities?
- How can public and private colleges and universities forge new partnerships with the state and their communities to better address these priorities?

The Association of Governing Boards' Center for Public Higher Education Trusteeship and Governance hopes to launch the summit process in late April and to conclude by December. The Center's role is one of a facilitator. The Center will get the steering committee selected and up and running, staff the process, work with the steering committee co-chairs and their staffs, do much of the background analysis/research, interview key stakeholders for the purposes of assessing the State's needs and priorities, and finance a large portion of the costs associated with the summit process

The Center has identified a preliminary steering committee (see Dr. Cole's memo to you). A delegation from the Governing Board/Center would like to come to Mississippi as soon as possible to meet with you, Dr. Cole, Dwight Evans, Commissioner Layzell and me to initiate work related to the summit.

This summit presents the opportunity for you to be recognized as a gubernatorial leader in higher education. It also stresses partnerships between higher education, business and communities, which is a perfect tie-in to Advantage Mississippi. The Governing Board/Center is looking for two states in which to conduct these summits and they want Mississippi to be the first. I would advise that you co-chair this summit.

Please advise as to if you wish to co-chair this summit and if you wish to meet with representatives of the Governing Board/Center.