

*Draft Talking points for  
Groundbreaking, JCJC Advanced Technology Center  
December 18, 2003*

**Message for the day is jobs, education and workforce training**

- I. Recognize
  - a. Dr. Ronald Whitehead
  - b. Billy McCoy
  - c. Bobby Shows
  - d. Billy Howard
- II. We are here today to celebrate the groundbreaking for Jones County Junior College Advanced Technology Center at the Howard Technology Center
  - a. This Center and the technology park mean one thing to south MS – **JOBS**
  - b. **Jobs** mean better opportunities for our children
- III. The Center is here because we made investment in education our **number one priority**
  - a. We provided the **foundation** for this center and the technology park
  - b. Declared by *Southern Business and Development* magazine as a “**super site**” for economic development
  - c. We did it together.
- IV. Technology Center is located at the heart of the I-59 Technology Corridor that stretches from Meridian in the north to the John C. Stennis Space Center in the south.
  - a. Along this corridor is a range of technology-related businesses, government entities and educational institutions.
  - b. Howard Industries expansion
    - i. Howard Industries – a homegrown MS success story
- V. JCJC Technology Center will provide workforce training in many different fields of technology, including
  - a. manufacturing
  - b. electronics and robotics
  - c. information technology and forest management
- VI. Allows our children to stay home in Mississippi to work and raise their families
- VII. Thank you for allowing me the honor to serve as your Governor