



CENTER *for* COMMUNITY  
COLLEGE LEADERSHIP

Fall 2019 Weekend Seminar I

Volunteer State Community College Library  
Rochelle Center

**AGENDA**

**Friday, September 27, 2019**

6:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.	Welcome & Introductions	Drs. Jerry Faulkner, Richard Rhoda, & Jill Channing
6:30 p.m. – 7:15 p.m.	Dinner	
7:15 – 7:45	Community College Leadership Graduate Certificate Conferrals	Drs. Tydings, Rhoda, Channing & graduates
7:45 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.	Remarks and Discussions with Tennessee Board of Regents Chancellor Flora Tydings	Chancellor Flora Tydings & all



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**Saturday, September 28, 2019**

8:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.	<b>BREAKFAST</b>	
9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	Individual Presentations	Students
12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.	<b>LUNCH</b>	
1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.	Presidents Panel	Presidents Faulkner, Lenz, & Hamilton



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### **Dr. Flora Tydings, Tennessee Board of Regents Chancellor**

Dr. Tydings was appointed Chancellor by the Tennessee Board of Regents in a unanimous vote on Dec. 27, 2016, effective Feb. 1, 2017. As Chancellor, she is chief executive officer of the Board of Regents system, managing operations of the system office and providing strategic leadership for the system's institutions in accordance with the Board's policies and direction and with Tennessee law. She arrived as the Board and its institutions continue the transition into a more unified community and technical college system under the state's FOCUS (Focus on College and University Success) Act of 2016. The TBR system is the primary driver in Tennessee's Drive to 55 initiative -- a broad effort proposed by Governor Bill Haslam and involving all higher education institutions to increase the percentage of working-age Tennesseans with a college degree or postsecondary certificate or credential to 55 percent by 2025.

Dr. Tydings earned her Doctor of Education degree in Occupational Studies at The University of Georgia; her Master of Education degree at Mercer University, and her Bachelor of Science degree in education, with an emphasis in behavioral science, at Georgia Southern University.

She began her career as a professional educator in the Houston County, Ga., school system from 1976 to 1984. After working in the private sector, she returned to education in 1994 as apprenticeship director for four Georgia public school systems and as an adjunct instructor at Middle Georgia College.

Her career in higher education leadership began in 1996 as director of curriculum and staff development at Macon Technical Institute. She became vice president for academic affairs at Central Georgia Technical College two years later, and served in that position until her appointment as president at Athens Technical College in 2003. She served there until moving to Tennessee in 2015 as president of Chattanooga State Community College.

At Chattanooga, she ushered in the history-making first class of Tennessee Promise students, which led to a 25 percent increase in first-time freshmen enrollment; created new collaborations with the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, including a dual admissions agreement that provides a seamless pathway for students to transfer between the two institutions; expanded the President's Cabinet to include the heads of the Faculty Senate, Professional Staff Association and Support Staff Association; built relationships with the business and civic community, and led the campus in joining Achieving the Dream, a national reform network to accelerate success among diverse student populations and aid colleges in increasing persistence and graduation rates.

### **Dr. Jerry Faulkner**

Dr. Faulkner currently serves as President of Volunteer State Community College. Prior to coming to VSCC, Dr. Faulkner served as the chief academic officer for Cleveland State where he provided leadership for the school's academic-related programs and initiated several processes and programs to improve student learning and success. He has also spearheaded accreditation processes for academic units and assisted with college-wide successful reaccreditation efforts.

Prior to 2008, Faulkner worked his way up through the academic ranks at Chattanooga State Community College, where he began teaching biology in 1994. In 2002 he was selected Department Head for Life Sciences and then Teacher Education Coordinator. He also taught and served two years as associate vice president for Academic Affairs at Tennessee Temple University before joining Chattanooga State.

Faulkner earned his Ph.D. and master's degrees in botany/ecology from the University of Tennessee at Knoxville and his bachelor's degree from Tennessee Temple. He has also completed the Future Leaders Institute/Advanced from the American Association of Community Colleges.



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### **Dr. Allana R. Hamilton**

Dr. Hamilton serves as the fifth president of Jackson State Community College. She was formally vice president for academic affairs at Northeast State Community College in Blountville, TN.

Dr. Hamilton has served varying roles within the higher education system for over 25 years. She has observed and implemented many processes and procedures. Prior to joining Jackson State in 2017, Hamilton served Northeast State, initially as an adjunct faculty member in biology. She joined the faculty on a full-time basis in 1992 and worked her way up through the ranks of instructor, assistant professor and associate professor to tenured professor and biology department curriculum coordinator. From 2001 to 2008, she served as academic division chair and dean before her appointment as vice president for academic affairs. In that role, she led the faculty, staff and administration in support of the college's instructional program. She helped develop new academic programs based on the community's needs, including, for examples, an industrial operations technical certificate and a STEM (science, technology, engineering, math) initiative involving K-12 schools, public and private colleges and universities, employers and community members.

Hamilton earned her bachelor of science degree in biology at Tusculum College in 1987, a master of science in biological sciences at East Tennessee State University in 1991, and a doctorate in education at ETSU in 2011.

Her experience both in the classroom and in the college's top leadership enable her to continue an emphasis on student success, retention and improved graduation rates at Jackson State as it moves forward the statewide Drive to 55 initiative.

Her commitment to the mission and philosophy of community colleges is underscored by her enrollment and participation in at least nine leadership institutes and academies focused on student, faculty and institutional success, including the Tennessee Board of Regents Advanced Leadership Academy, Regents Community College Leadership Academy and a 150-hour internship focused on performance funding and research. Her doctoral dissertation focused on student persistence to graduation within a community college.

### **Mr. Mark Lenz**

Mr. Mark Lenz serves as the President of the Tennessee College of Applied Technology Nashville. The College serves over 1,400 students annually who are in pursuit of technical credentials that will enable them to advance in the workforce and in their careers. As President, Mr. Lenz is responsible for every aspect of operations for the main campus and three satellites; Portland, Springfield, and Cockrill Bend.

An honored veteran, he served his country in the U.S. Navy earning credentials in Basic Electricity and Electronics, Gunner's Mate, and Gunner's Mate Technician. He attained the rank of Petty Officer 2nd Class with military honors to include two humanitarian medals for his assistance in rescuing refugees off the coast of Vietnam and accommodations for nuclear weapons team training.

His post-military career included practical applications in several technical fields including welding, service repair, computer information technology and statistical analysis. He completed an apprenticeship in machine tool and machines systems. After acquiring the skills needed to perform these essentials jobs, he entered leadership and training as an instructor, supervisor, and training manager. Most notably, he advanced throughout the Bosch Corporation where he developed training programs in problem solving, quality management, introduction to computers and the Bosch



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Leadership Program. Mark was a team leader for Robert Bosch North America and was the first to bring online learning to the Bosch organization, providing 385 online courses to 16,000 employees. Throughout his career he collaborated and provided instruction for educational organizations such as Trident Technical College, Midlands Technical College, Central Carolina Technical College, Troy State University, Southern Illinois University, U.S. Department of Labor, and Sumter County Industrial Development Board.

For his contributions to Bosch, Mark received the 2009 “Silver Star of Excellence” award and was inducted into the National Technical Honor Society (NTHS) Educator Hall of Fame for initiating developing Tennessee’s first Mechatronics program taught at TCAT Clarksville.

He holds a BS degree in Workforce Education and Development from Southern Illinois University, a Dual MA in Human Resources Development and Human Resource Management from Webster University, and is a Dale Carnegie graduate and recipient of the Silver Star of Excellence, which is the highest honor for technical training given by the American Technical Education Association. Exemplifying life-long learning, Mr. Lenz is a recent graduate from East Tennessee State University’s Graduate Certificate in Community College Leadership Program.