

DATE: May 19, 2020
TO: Southeastern Community College
FROM: Mr. Henry J. Edmund, Chair, Board of Trustees
RE: Announcement of Presidential Finalists

The Southeastern Community College Board of Trustees is pleased to announce that we have selected three finalists for the presidency of Southeastern Community College. I would personally like to thank the entire College community for your continued interest and support in the process to identify our next President. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank each member of the Presidential Search Committee for their exceptional work and effort.

The Southeastern Community College presidential finalists are (in alphabetical order):

Michael V. Ayers, D.M., is Vice President of Academic Affairs at Southeastern Community College in Whiteville, NC. He previously served as Dean of Math, Science, and Technologies at Forsyth Technical Community College in Winston-Salem, NC. Dr. Ayers earned a Doctorate of Management in Community College Policy and Administration from the University of Maryland University College in Adelphi, MD; a Master of Arts and a Bachelor of Science in Biology from Appalachian State University in Boone, NC; and an Associate of Arts and Associate of Science from Surry Community College in Dobson, NC.

Christopher English, Ed.D., is Vice President of Economic and Workforce Development/Continuing Education of Blue Ridge Community College in Flat Rock, NC. He previously served as Dean of Advanced Technology at Blue Ridge Community College in Flat Rock, NC. Dr. English earned a Doctorate of Education in Educational Leadership from Western Carolina University in Cullowhee, NC; a Master of Arts in Educational Administration from New Mexico State University in Las Cruces, NM; a Bachelor of Science in Automotive Technology Management from Pennsylvania College of Technology in Williamsport, PA; and an Associate of Applied Science in Industrial Technology from Greenville Technical College in Greenville, SC.

Brian Merritt, Ph.D., is Vice President of Learning & Workforce Development of Central Carolina Community College in Sanford, NC. He previously served as the Vice President of Student Learning at Central Carolina Community College in Sanford, NC. Dr. Merritt earned a Doctorate of Philosophy in Higher Education Administration from Walden University in Minneapolis, MN; a Master of Arts in Higher Education Administration from Appalachian State University in Boone, NC; and a Bachelor of Science in Secondary Social Sciences Education from Appalachian State University in Boone, NC.

Each finalist will participate in an open forum broadcast on the college's YouTube channel. A link to the live stream will be posted on the website and on the college Facebook page. Each forum will also be aired on EDU-Cable the following day. **We invite and encourage everyone to participate in the forums.** All forums are open to all faculty, administrators, staff, students, and the general public. Mr. Kennon Briggs, ACCT Search Consultant, will facilitate all forums. There will be a brief introduction of each candidate, followed by a question and answer session. Feedback will be collected via an electronic survey and given to the Board of Trustees for review.

At the start of each forum you will receive an email with the survey link. You'll use this link to provide feedback (and the links will also be posted on the College's webpage at the start of each forum). Please be on the lookout for this link and submit your feedback immediately following each forum. You will only have 24 hours to complete each survey. **Please email questions you would like us to ask the final candidates to Mr. Briggs by 4:00pm on Monday, May 25: kennondb@gmail.com**

Open Forum Schedule

Tuesday, May 26, 2020

Dr. Brian Merritt

Link to the live stream through [YouTube](#) and on the college [Facebook](#) page. Time: 3 pm

Wednesday, May 27, 2020

Dr. Christopher English

Link to the live stream through [YouTube](#) and on the college [Facebook](#) page. Time: 3 pm

Thursday, May 28, 2020

Dr. Michael Ayers

Link to the live stream through [YouTube](#) and on the college [Facebook](#) page. Time: 3 pm

We are looking forward to a successful completion of the presidential search process. If you have any questions or suggestions, please feel free to reach out to our ACCT Search Consultants:

- Mr. Kennon Briggs, ACCT Search Consultant, kennondb@gmail.com, (919) 621-7988 (mobile)
- Julie Golder, J.D., ACCT, Vice President of Search Services, jgolder@acct.org or 202-384-5816 (mobile)