

**Jimmy H. Baker**

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**NEWS RELEASE**

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December 14, 2016

**For immediate release**

MONTGOMERY, Ala. – At the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission On Colleges (SACSCOC) Annual Meeting December 3-6 in Atlanta, Georgia, the Commission Board of Trustees approved the Substantive Change Request for the final approval of the consolidation of Faulkner State Community College with Jefferson Davis Community College and Alabama Southern Community College.

The SACSCOC decision allowed for the Alabama Community College System Board of Trustees to take final action of approval, today at its monthly board meeting, in the consolidation implementation plan of these colleges, which is to be named Coastal Alabama Community College. The consolidation plan will be effective January 11, 2017. Faulkner State’s current Bay Minette Campus will serve as the regional main campus for the newly consolidated college. Reid State Technical College is not included in this consolidation.

“The approval of SACSCOC Commission and today’s approval of our Board of Trustees is the result of hard work from staff as well as communities coming together for the betterment of the System as a whole,” said Jimmy Baker, acting chancellor of the Alabama Community College System. “Our goal is to meet our students’ needs to the best of our ability and in the most efficient manner possible.”

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*The Alabama Community College System (ACCS) consists of 25 comprehensive community and technical colleges, Marion Military Institute and the Alabama Technology Network (ATN). ACCS is committed to providing a unified system of institutions delivering excellence in academic education, adult education, and workforce development. ACCS serves approximately 185,000 people annually through all of its entities, with over 83,000 of those served enrolled in credit courses.*