Dear Doctoral Students:

Congratulations on your selection as a member of our Doctoral Community of Scholars. You are among an elite group of professionals who will make a significant difference for generations to come. The world is waiting on you to explore new areas of knowledge and assist in solving many complex issues facing the workplace.

Earning your doctoral degree is a way of responding to societal needs. Through working with renowned experts and scholars, you will grow intellectually in your specialized field of study. By conducting research, you will amass specialized knowledge to identify, analyze, articulate and solve complex problems. Completing doctoral degree requirements, including the dissertation, is one way of increasing your value in the workplace. Guiding you through this process is our way of preparing a highly-skilled workforce and future intellectual leadership necessary for the country to remain successful in the 21st century.

Kindly remember milestones and deadlines are extremely important and must be followed. The Graduate School offers two important websites for your use: CyberOrientation (www.isums.edu/graduateschool/cyberorientation) and CyberAdvising (www.isums.edu/graduateschool/cyberorientation) are designed to assist you with these processes. If you need additional assistance, please contact your advisor.

According to the Council of Graduate Schools, “Over the next decade and beyond, the Bureau of Labor Statistics estimates, over 2.6 million new and replacement jobs will require an advanced degree.”

I implore you to stay focused on your educational goal and prepare yourselves for one of the 2.6 million new and replacement jobs waiting for you.

Thanks for selecting Jackson State University as your university of choice for graduate education.

Best wishes in your pursuit of your doctoral degree.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Dorris R. Robinson-Gardner
Dean and Professor of Higher Education