



## **Media Release**

### **Public Relations**

#### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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#### **Jackson State hosting Mississippi Association of Colleges and Universities**

(JACKSON, Miss.) — Jackson State University will host the 74<sup>th</sup> Annual Mississippi Association of Colleges and Universities from Oct. 7-9. Following the theme, “Achieving Enhanced Student Retention and Graduation Rates in Mississippi Postsecondary Education,” more than 250 higher education professionals will discuss best practices for supporting first-year students, and advising and mentoring all students.

Sessions will be held at the Mississippi e-Center @ JSU on Sunday, Oct. 7 at the Marriott-Jackson Downtown on Monday, Oct. 8, and on the Jackson State campus on Tuesday, Oct. 9.

“These annual gatherings allow all of Mississippi’s institutions of higher learning to support one another,” says JSU President Ronald Mason Jr., current president of the association. “Whether public or private, four-year or two-year colleges, we all have one goal and that is to prepare Mississippians for better lives.”

Student athletes also will be honored during the Halbrook Awards dinner scheduled for 6:30 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 7 at the e-Center. Named for former Mississippi Rep. David M. Halbrook, a monetary award will go to the college or university with the greatest annual increase in graduating athletes.

For a complete schedule, visit <http://www2.jsums.edu/forms/MAC/glance.cfm> or call 601 979-2323.

**-JSU-**

#### **About Jackson State University**

Jackson State University, founded in 1877, is a historically black, high research activity university located in Jackson, the capital city of the state of Mississippi. Jackson State’s nurturing academic environment challenges individuals to change lives through teaching, research and service. Officially designated as Mississippi’s Urban University, Jackson State continues to enhance the state, nation and world through comprehensive economic development, health-care, technological and educational initiatives. The only university in the Jackson metropolitan area, Jackson State is located near downtown, with three satellite campuses throughout the city. For more information, visit [www.jsums.edu](http://www.jsums.edu).