APRIL 2025 EDITION

THE TIGER



NEWSLETTER



Coahoma Names 2025 Valedictorian and Salutatorian

Coahoma Community College proudly announces Jeremiah Harris of Carthage as Valedictorian and Jordyn Johnson of Ruleville as Salutatorian for the Class of 2025. Both Pre-Nursing majors have demonstrated outstanding academic achievement and campus involvement. Harris is a member of Phi Theta Kappa and the Marching Maroon Typhoon, while Johnson is active in student leadership and performs with the Dancin' Jewels. They will be honored at the college's Commencement Ceremony on May 10. Harris is known for his dedication to helping others and plans to continue his studies in healthcare. Johnson has excelled in the Honors College and multiple student organizations, showcasing strong leadership and academic focus. Coahoma President Dr. Valmadge T. Towner praised both students for their work ethic and commitment to excellence.



April Quote of the Month "Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world." – Nelson Mandela

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Monthly Newsletter

Welcome to the official Coahoma Community College Monthly Newsletter – your goto source for the latest campus highlights, student achievements, faculty features, and community engagement updates.

This publication serves as a vibrant platform to showcase the impactful programs, academic excellence, and Tiger pride that define the Coahoma experience. As champions of education, leadership, and service, we continue to uphold our mission of transforming lives and building stronger communities throughout the Mississippi Delta and beyond.

Through this newsletter, we aim to keep you informed, connected, and inspired as we celebrate our growth and continue striving toward excellence. Thank you for being a part of the CCC family. Let's continue roaring forward – together!

> With Tiger Pride, Office of Communications & Marketing Coahoma Community College

In this newsletter you will find:

Latest events, campus news, resources, and more.

Coahoma Community College Expands Workforce Development Center to Bolster Regional Economic Growth and Career Preparedness



Coahoma Community College has announced a major expansion of its Workforce Development Center, reinforcing its role as a regional leader in workforce training and economic growth. This initiative aims to meet the increasing demand for skilled workers in the Mississippi Delta, particularly in rural communities facing employment disparities. The expansion will feature upgraded facilities, modern instructional spaces, and advanced technology to support training in high-demand fields such as healthcare, transportation, construction, IT, and manufacturing.

President Dr. Valmadge Towner emphasized the college's commitment to empowering citizens through professional development and economic opportunity, calling the project "a bold step forward." Executive Director Steven Jossell added that the expansion represents not just growth in space, but a broader effort to create sustainable, upwardly mobile careers. In addition to technical training, the center will provide wraparound services like career coaching, digital literacy, and job placement. Poised to become a hub for collaboration among employers, educators, and civic leaders, the center underscores Coahoma's vision of workforce development as a tool for community transformation and long-term economic resilience.

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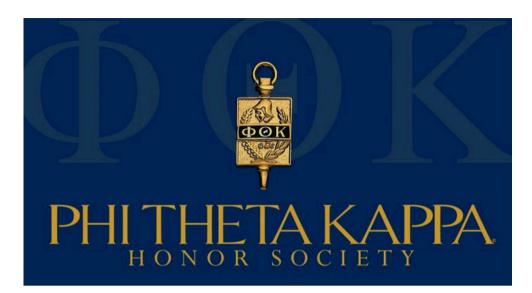
Monica Tompkins of Coahoma Community College Among Educators Selected for HBCU IP Futures Collaborative and \$25,000 Grant Support



Monica Tompkins, Business and Computer Information Systems Instructor at Coahoma Community College, has been selected to join the 2025 HBCU IP Futures Collaborative, a national initiative led by the Michelson Intellectual Property Institute (MIPI). This program empowers educators at Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) to introduce intellectual property (IP) education into their classrooms, helping students protect their innovations and build generational wealth.

As part of the cohort, Tompkins will receive \$25,000 in grant funding, access to MIPI resources, and support in developing curricula across disciplines like business, STEM, and the creative arts. She joins educators across the country in promoting innovation and economic empowerment for underrepresented communities.

"We are extremely proud of Ms. Tompkins for her selection," said Dr. Valmadge T. Towner, President of Coahoma. "Her work directly aligns with our mission to prepare students for success in today's competitive, idea-driven economy."



Coahoma's PTK Chapter Makes History at CATALYST 2025

The Alpha Omicron Pi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa (PTK) at Coahoma Community College made a historic impact at CATALYST 2025, PTK's premier international convention held April 3–5 in Kansas City, Missouri. This annual gathering celebrates the achievements of PTK's topperforming student scholars, advisors, and college leaders from around the world. Representing Coahoma with distinction, the chapter reached new heights by taking the stage for the first time as the Northern Region representative—marking a major milestone in the chapter's journey.

Among the standout moments, Cimmion Ross, a Mississippi/Louisiana Regional Officer, proudly carried the regional flag during the opening ceremony. Gregory Neely III was honored with the Distinguished Chapter Member Award, and Dr. Larry Webster was named a Distinguished College Administrator for his exceptional support of students and leadership on campus.

In a groundbreaking accomplishment, Coahoma's chapter ranked among the Top 100 PTK Chapters Worldwide out of more than 1,200 chapters and received two top 2025 Hallmark Awards: Distinguished Chapter Award and Distinguished Honors in Action Project Award. These honors fulfilled a vision set by Chapter President Fred Dumas, who had boldly predicted in 2024 that the chapter would return to the stage with awards in hand. The Alpha Omicron Pi Chapter's success at CATALYST 2025 underscores Coahoma Community College's strong commitment to student leadership and academic excellence on the national stage.

SUCCESS



Coahoma Community College proudly announces a major academic and professional milestone achieved by Dr. Taneshia T. Winston, Director of Employee Services and 504/ADA Coordinator. Dr. Winston has successfully earned a Doctor of Philosophy in Community College Leadership from Mississippi State University—an accomplishment that reflects her unwavering commitment to education, leadership, and service.

Her doctoral journey, marked by years of rigorous coursework, research, and personal growth, underscores a deep-rooted passion for the mission of community colleges. Dr. Winston describes the experience as both challenging and transformative. "The most difficult part of this journey was navigating the rigorous demands of research and coursework while maintaining balance in other aspects of life," she said. "But it was all worth it in the end. The growth, both personal and professional, has been truly rewarding."

Motivated by a desire to make a greater impact in higher education, Dr. Winston pursued the degree to become a more effective leader and advocate—especially for students from underserved and nontraditional backgrounds. Her dissertation, Work-Life Balance and the Impact of COVID-19 on Faculty at Historically Black Community Colleges, addresses critical and timely challenges faced by educators during the pandemic. "I wanted my research to contribute to the ongoing conversations around faculty well-being, especially in the unique environments of HBCU community colleges," she said.

Now equipped with her doctorate, Dr. Winston plans to use her expanded knowledge to support professional development, student success, and institutional growth at Coahoma.

GRADUATION CHECKLIST V



Pay the \$65 graduation fee to the Business Office before graduation practice on May 7, 2025.



Attend graduation practice in the Pinnacle on Wednesday, May 7, 2025 at 9:00 A.M.

Pick up cap & gown after rehearsal. Graduation fees must be paid before pickup.



Check the Graduation Course for more details.

