



Daniel J. Phelan, Ph.D.,  
President, Jackson College (MI)

Dr. Daniel J. Phelan has served as President of Jackson College (JC) in Jackson, Michigan since April 2001. He holds a Doctor of Philosophy Degree in Higher Education Administration from Iowa State University, Ames, Iowa. He earned a Master of Business Administration Degree from St. Ambrose University in Davenport, Iowa, and a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Business Administration and an Associate in Arts degree in Liberal Arts from Mount St. Clare College in Clinton, Iowa.

Previously, Dr. Phelan served as the President of Southeastern Community College in West Burlington, Iowa. Prior to SCC, President Phelan served as the Executive Vice President of Educational and Student Services at Western Nebraska Community College, and as Executive Director of the Business & Industry Institute at Johnson County Community College, Kansas. He also served in numerous administrative posts including economic development, continuing education, off-campus centers, library industry training at North Iowa Area Community College.

He consults and teaches various courses in higher education, leadership, quality, and management, at several colleges and universities, at both graduate and undergraduate levels. A regular national presenter and an author of numerous professional articles, monographs, and essays, Dr. Phelan has been honored for his work in higher education and community service. He has concluded writing a book entitled, *Unrelenting Change, Disruptive Innovation and Risk: Forging the Next Generation of Community Colleges*, as part of the Association of Community College Trustees (ACCT) Leadership Series, and is due to be released late 2015.

Dr. Phelan is the Chair-Elect to the Board of Directors of the American Association of Community Colleges (AACC). He serves on the AACC Audit and Finance Committee, and is Co-Chair of Higher Education Act Reauthorization Committee for AACC. He previously served on the blue ribbon 21st-Century Commission on the Future of Community Colleges, as part of its Implementation Steering Committee, and he also co-chaired a Commission project team charged with redefining the community college role and mission. He has served previously on AACC's Commission on Economic and Workforce Development, the Commission on Global Education, chaired the Commission on Communications and Marketing, and served on the joint AACC and the Association of Community College Trustees Board (ACCT) Committee on Public

Policy/Government Relations. Dr. Phelan also served on the AACCC committee assisting with the development of the Voluntary Framework of Accountability (VFA) in an effort to improve community college performance across the country (Jackson College served as a Beta test site for VFA implementation).

He is an active Consultant-Evaluator for the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools, Higher Learning Commission (HLC) in Chicago, IL, the College's regional accrediting agency. He has led JC through the implementation of the Academic Quality Improvement Project (AQIP), a Baldrige-based approach to accreditation. Jackson College is currently on a journey of implementing Baldrige principles institution-wide. He is also Past President of the Council of North Central Two-Year Colleges organization, an affiliate of the Higher Learning Commission. Dr. Phelan is also a Past President of the Continuous Quality Improvement Network (CQIN) organization.

Elsewhere nationally, Dr. Phelan is the Board Chair-elect for the Higher Education Resource Development Institute. He also serves as a Board member for the Center for Community College Student Engagement (CCCSE), and is a member of the National Advisory Committee for Improving Outcomes for Men of Color in Community colleges, both of Austin, TX. Additionally, he serves as an Editorial Board member for the Journal of Applied Research in the Community College. He is a founding board member for the international organization, US-Brasil Connect and he is a Past President of the Council for the Study of Community Colleges (CSCC), a community college research-based organization.

Active at the state level, Dr. Phelan is the Past Chairman of the President's Committee and Past Chairman of the Board of the Michigan Community College Association (MCCA) in Lansing, Michigan. He is a former member of the Council for Labor and Economic Growth (CLEG) (governor appointed) State Workforce Investment Board (WIB). He chaired a committee for current Michigan Governor Rick Snyder, on the development of community college accountability metrics in the State. He also served on the Board of Directors for the Ronald McDonald House of Charities of Outstate Michigan.

Locally, Dr. Phelan is a Board Member for the Jackson Enterprise Group, a member of the Board of Governors of the Jackson Area Chamber of Commerce, serves on the local First Merit Bank's Board, the Jackson Anchor Initiative Board and is also a member of the Lenawee Economic Development Corporation Board of Directors. He is a past board member of the Jackson Symphony, the South Central Michigan Works organization, the Community Access Center Board of Directors, and is an Emeritus Board member of the Jackson Community Foundation in Jackson.

Dr. Phelan is married to Dr. Adriana Phelan. They have four daughters: Kathryn, Michelle, Maggie and Isabella.