

**Resolution by Copiah-Lincoln Community College in Memory of
The Honorable William Forrest Winter**

February 21, 1923-December 18, 2020

WHEREAS, William Forrest Winter, known as the “Education Governor of Mississippi,” was a longtime advocate and promotor of all levels of education in the State of Mississippi, including two-year colleges, and in particular, Copiah-Lincoln Community College;

WHEREAS, because of Governor Winter’s deep love of the humanities, he readily agreed in 1989 to give freely of his time and talent to serve as the Director of Proceedings June 7-9, 1990, at the inaugural Natchez Literary Celebration (later named Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration), sponsored by Copiah-Lincoln Community College;

WHEREAS, Governor Winter continued to serve annually as Director of Proceedings of the NLCC through February 2017, always with energy, efficiency, and diplomacy, always accompanied by his supportive wife, Elise Varner Winter, and often accompanied by other family members;

WHEREAS, through nearly three decades Governor Winter provided invaluable suggestions for NLCC program topics, speakers, award winners, and films;

WHEREAS, Governor Winter’s national prestige attracted many of the outstanding speakers at the NLCC;

WHEREAS, Governor Winter himself was a captivating speaker at numerous Celebrations, sharing his research and first-hand knowledge of Mississippi’s history and culture;

WHEREAS, Governor Winter provided generous personal financial support to the NLCC and, through his endorsements, helped secure national grants and other funding for the Celebration;

WHEREAS, Governor Winter served faithfully as a diligent member of the NLCC’s Advisory Board for 27 years;

WHEREAS, Governor Winter willingly lent his name to the William Winter Scholars program sponsored by the NLCC, a program that recognizes outstanding college-level students and faculty members in Mississippi;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Copiah-Lincoln Community College Board of Trustees, faculty, students, alumni, and leaders of the NLCC express their deepest sympathy to the William Winter family on the loss of a great Mississippi statesman and devoted friend to education, The Honorable William Forrest Winter.



Dr. Jane Hulon Sims, Co-Lin President



Emily Williams, NLCC Coordinator