

Ronald Mason Jr.

President, Jackson State University

Ronald Mason Jr. became President of Jackson State University (JSU) on Feb. 1, 2000. He has over 25 years of experience in higher education, community development and law. During Mason's tenure, JSU has experienced significant transformation and growth. Based on a five-year strategic plan developed in 2002, the academic and business units were reorganized, information technology was infused throughout the campus, public relations and fundraising divisions were installed, and the campus and surrounding communities were revitalized.

Mason enjoyed an 18-year tenure at Tulane University that encompassed several positions, including General Counsel, Vice President for Finance and Operations, and Senior Vice President and General Counsel. Mason also founded and directed the Tulane/Xavier Center for Urban Community at Tulane.

Mason has served on the boards of the American Council on Education, the National Advisory Committee on Institutional Quality and Integrity of the U.S. Department of Education, and the Office of Postsecondary Education. He currently serves on the boards of the Thurgood Marshall Scholarship Fund, the National Association for Equal Opportunity in Higher Education, and the White House Board of Advisors for Historically Black Colleges and Universities. He is also the recipient of the Mayor's Medal of Honor from the City of New Orleans and the Martin Luther King Lifetime Achievement Award from Dillard, Loyola, Tulane and Xavier Universities.

Mason earned his bachelor's and juris doctor degrees from Columbia University in New York City. He is a graduate of the Harvard Institute of Educational Management and was one of five recipients of Columbia University's 2008 John Jay Award for distinguished alumni.

