**THANK YOU LETTER**

**FOR**

**JERRY HARDEE**

Dear\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_,

I would like to take this opportunity to express my gratitude as I begin my tenure as President of Paine College. This school has a long history and it is my intention that with foresight, partnership, and strategic connections, we will insure a continued and sustainable legacy for the foreseeable future and beyond. I vow to use whatever resources possible to actively engage and encourage support at every level for the enrichment of the student experience from this point and into the future.

The longer we live, and the more we navigate through the challenges this new world in which we find ourselves, the more it becomes apparent that we are only as strong as our connections.... and our knowledge base. It is my intention to address and resolve the issues faced in the past by the school and to transform Paine College into an institution known for its viability and engagement at every level... from student enrollment and retention to faculty involvement and enthusiasm; from community outreach and support to new levels of corporate funding for research and development.

Higher education has been described as "a diverse ecosystem" and now, more than ever, I am sure we can all see the urgency of being able to provide a comprehensive, quality education for our students. It is our only hope for the future and although we look back to learn, we must look forward to work together, as a community, to build a sustainable program for tomorrow's leaders and citizens.

Thank you.