

Jothany Reed, Ed.D.

The Tennessee Board of Regents (TBR) appointed Dr. Jothany Reed as Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, effective August 30, 2021, where she serves as the chief academic officer for the College System of Tennessee. Dr. Reed oversees Academic Affairs for the state's 13 community colleges, 24 colleges of applied technology, and TN eCampus. She drives the strategic direction for academic initiatives at TBR, championing excellence, innovation, and growth to ensure the continued advancement and success of Tennessee's higher education landscape.

With an impressive career spanning over 27 years, Dr. Reed exemplifies an unwavering dedication to education, innovation, and leadership. Her passion lies in fostering transformative teaching and learning experiences while pioneering cutting-edge system models that enhance academic programs, workforce initiatives, strategic partnerships, and impactful policies. Dr. Reed has held distinguished leadership roles across system offices, community colleges, and universities in Tennessee, Texas, and California, showcasing her commitment to advancing educational excellence and institutional growth.

As Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, Dr. Reed spearheaded transformative initiatives that have redefined academic and workforce alignment in higher education. She established the Industry-Driven Education Aligned Learning (IDEAL) Workforce Model, a groundbreaking framework that united TBR's Academic Affairs and the Center for Workforce Development to collaboratively scale credit programs, workforce training, and apprenticeships across Tennessee through an innovative multimodal approach. Recognized as a Best Practice in the Tennessee Higher Education (THEC) Commission's 2024 Supply and Demand Report, this model underscores her vision for creating opportunities for Tennesseans. Dr. Reed also orchestrated the design and execution of the inaugural multi-agency charrette for the 2024 Tennessee Workforce Convening. This landmark event, hosted by the Tennessee Board of Regents, the Department of Economic and Community Development, and the Department of Labor and Workforce Development, brought together over 250 business and industry leaders, fostering cross-sector collaboration to address workforce challenges and opportunities.

Dr. Reed has also bolstered dynamic workforce partnerships with the Tennessee Hospital Association (THA), Nashville Songwriters Association International (NSAI), Amazon, Google, Apple, Metro Nashville Police Department (MNP), TennCare, TN Forestry Association, Floor Covering Education Foundation, The Ingram Group, and the TN Center for Health Workforce Development, among others. Her office also expanded educational partnerships with UT Knoxville, Tennessee State University, UT Martin, and the University of Memphis, further strengthening pathways that bridge academia with the workforce to advance educational opportunities across the state.

Under Dr. Reed's leadership, Academic Affairs has achieved transformative milestones that have significantly advanced education and workforce development across Tennessee. She spearheaded the establishment of the TBR Center for Apprenticeship, which has supported a remarkable 26% increase in registered apprenticeships statewide. Her efforts expanded TCAT-to-Community College articulation agreements from 7 to an impressive 33 pathways, enabling students to earn up to 45 college credits seamlessly. Dr. Reed also launched the Academic Affairs Leadership Academy to cultivate future leaders, championed Competency-Based General Education courses

to enhance flexible learning, expanded the Correctional Education Initiative (CEI) within Tennessee Department of Correction (TDOC) facilities, and her office is leading Artificial Intelligence (AI) training and engagement across the TBR colleges.

A steadfast advocate for student success, Dr. Reed has been recognized nationally for her leadership and transformative contributions to education. During her tenure in California, she received special congressional recognition from the United States House of Representatives, along with certificates of recognition from the California State Senate and Assembly. Honoring her impact, she was awarded the prestigious Heritage Award by California State Assemblyman Henry T. Perea and inducted into the State Center Community College District Wall of Honor. In Texas, Dr. Reed's leadership was celebrated with a Proclamation for Women's Month by San Antonio Mayor Ivy Taylor, presented by the Wounded Warriors Battalion at Fort Sam Houston. She was further recognized with the Trusted Leaders Award, the Corazon Leadership Award, and the Outstanding Leadership Award from the Alamo Colleges District.

Dr. Reed holds a Doctor of Education in Educational Leadership from California State University, Fresno, as well as a Master of Arts and Bachelor of Arts in English from Tennessee State University. She resides in Nashville with her husband, Dr. Norman Reed, Sr., and her daughter, Ajani. Her son, Rudo lives in Texas, and their family is further enriched by two beloved pugs, a Russian tortoise, and two Aldabra Giant tortoises. Dr. Reed's academic achievements and leadership reflect her deep passion for education and her dedication to fostering meaningful connections that advance both academic excellence and institutional collaboration.