



ASSOCIATION OF TEACHER EDUCATORS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Dr. Jennifer Young Wallace Begins 2025-26 ATE Presidency

[Manassas, Virginia, April 7, 2025) – The Association of Teacher Educators (ATE) is delighted to announce Dr. Jennifer Young Wallace as the incoming 2025-26 President of ATE. The start of Dr. Young Wallace’s term aligns with the conclusion of the 2025 Annual Meeting in New Orleans.

Two guiding principles that will define Dr. Young Wallace’s presidency are a commitment to advocacy and leadership. “My focus will be building membership and engaging the membership to stay involved and get involved, with the hope of building a community,” said Dr. Young Wallace, reflecting on the year ahead.

These are the attributes of ATE that contributed to Dr. Young Wallace’s professional growth and development. The ATE connections she established over the course of her membership led her to publications, presentations, and speaking engagements across the United States. Now, Dr. Young Wallace is a leading teacher educator in Mississippi, where she works at Jackson State University (JSU) as a tenured associate professor of educational leadership and as the coordinator for the K-12 doctoral program in the JSU College of Education.

“I recognize the skills, the talents, and the expertise of my [ATE] colleagues,” stated Dr. Young Wallace. “And each time I am in awe of the spirit and leadership that each brings.”

Dr. Young Wallace began her involvement with the association by first joining an ATE Special Interest Group (SIG) that focused on educational leadership. Her engagement with the association also includes service on ATE’s Board of Directors where she helped to support and guide the organization throughout her three-year term. Dr. Young Wallace has experience conducting standards-based national evaluations of colleges and participation in research initiatives such as the Harvard University’s Black Teacher Archive Project. Just last year, she was awarded the Summer 2024 Institute of Social Justice Faculty Fellowship through JSU to pursue her research project, *An Injustice to Social Justice: The MS Black Caucus Perspective on Critical Race Theory*.

“I’ve learned to be very candid as a leader,” explained Dr. Young Wallace. “I believe in serving, but I believe in being very transparent in my leadership. I believe in building teams and empowering. I feel that if we empower a community, then it is inevitable that we are going to leave a stamp on education.”

This call to action is the foundation for the theme that Dr. Young Wallace selected for ATE’s 2025 Summer Conference and next year’s 2026 Annual Meeting: “Empowering a Global Community of Leaders to Leave a STAMP on Education: **S**ocial Emotional Learning, **T**ransformational Leadership, **A**dvocacy, **M**ulticulturalism, and **P**rofessional Practices.”

During the year ahead as ATE President, Dr. Young Wallace will focus on recruiting new ATE members from Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs), institutions that have been underrepresented in the organization. Dr. Young Wallace is the 5th African American president of ATE, she is an alumnus and an employee of an HBCU, and her career has benefitted exponentially from her ATE involvement. ATE is a professional association she wants all teacher educators to be aware of, PK16.

“I would like to have [greater] HBCU representation so that their faculty can get engaged and they too, as I have, can continue to grow professionally [through ATE],” said Dr. Young Wallace.

To view Dr. Young Wallace’s April 2025 blog, visit ATE’s website where the President’s message is listed above the page footer. (www.ate1.org)

About the Association of Teacher Educators (ATE): The Association of Teacher Educators is dedicated to the effective preparation of teachers and the development of effective teacher education programs. With a history spanning over a century, ATE is committed to promoting excellence in teacher preparation and advancing the profession of teaching.

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