



January 7, 2010

Chairman Julius Genachowski
Commissioner Meredith Attwell Baker
Commissioner Mignon Clyburn
Commissioner Michael J. Copps
Commissioner Robert M. McDowell

Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Re: GN Docket No. 09-191

Dear Chairman Genachowski and Commissioners:

As chancellor of the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff, a historically black university, it is my priority to oversee the quality of education that my students receive as well as the manner in which they obtain it. UAPB has a unique opportunity to prepare young men and women to compete in the fast-paced, technologically savvy, 21st Century workforce. We are obligated to our students to address the ever-changing field of technology, ensuring they receive access to state-of-the-art technology and resources. Having access to fair, affordable, reliable high-speed Internet and applications is essential to educate our youth, both at UAPB and before they reach our campus, so they are prepared to be successful students and productive citizens.

We were pleased to host Chairman Genachowski on our campus in November 2009 when he conducted a public discussion regarding the national goal of delivering high-speed Internet service to every household. Some of our students and faculty were in the audience and benefited from the discussion. It's troubling to know that broadband adoption among African Americans ranks among the lowest for any ethnic group but we can be encouraged that the rate of usage is increasing rapidly. Certainly, public investment by way of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act along with significant private investment promise to allow more of the African American community to go online.

Continued investment in broadband services and infrastructure is essential, and any new Internet regulations should be crafted to encourage growth that will have positive consequences for communities of color. I trust that you agree any new policy that might hinder investment and deployment of Internet service to minority and rural communities should be avoided. I am certain that you will thoughtfully consider any new regulatory policy to assure the best outcomes.

ARKANSAS PINE BLUFF

OFFICE OF THE CHANCELLOR

1200 North University Drive • Mail Slot 4982 • Pine Bluff, Arkansas 71601 • Office: (870) 575-8470 Fax: (870) 575-4646 • Email: davisla@uapb.edu

An equal opportunity/affirmative action university

I appreciate your commitment to ensuring fair and open access to broadband services for all. I encourage you to continue this work, keeping in mind the vulnerability of our youth and minority populations and the need to bring the Internet to them as quickly as possible.

Sincerely,



Lawrence A. Davis, Jr.
CHANCELLOR