



Dr. A. Zachary Faison Jr. has been selected as the 30th President and CEO of Edward Waters College (EWC) in Jacksonville, Florida via a unanimous vote by the College's Board of Trustees. Founded in 1866, Edward Waters College is distinctively the state of Florida's oldest independent institution of higher learning as well as Florida's first institution established for the education of African-Americans. The 152-year-old urban, private, Christian (African Methodist Episcopal – AME), historically black, liberal arts college offers high quality four-year baccalaureate degrees and seeks to prepare students holistically to advance in a global society through the provision of intellectually stimulating academic programs of study. At age 37, Faison's appointment as EWC's next leader makes him the nation's youngest sitting president & CEO of a Historically Black College or University (HBCU).

A native of Atlanta, Georgia, Faison's career exploits include distinguished professional experiences as a higher education executive administrator, educator, and attorney. He is

currently the General Counsel & Vice President of External Affairs at Tuskegee University where he serves as the university's chief legal officer and provides principal oversight for its legislative and governmental relations functions. Faison formerly served as Vice President for Enrollment Management & Student Affairs at Virginia Union University (VUU) in Richmond, VA where he helped lead the university in achieving increases in overall student enrollment and retention having founded the VUU College for African-American Men (VCAAM). He also previously served as Special Assistant to the President for Legal & Legislative Affairs, Community Affairs, and Economic Development at Mississippi Valley State University in Itta Bena, MS where he later became University Chief of Staff before being named Vice President of Institutional Advancement (interim) & Executive Director of the MVSU Foundation. Faison's philanthropic work at MVSU yielded nearly \$25 million dollars in funding to the university towards new capital projects, infrastructural improvements, and campus renovations. He previously held directorships at EWC as Director of External Relations and Leadership Gifts and at Albany State University (ASU) in Albany, Georgia as the Director of Alumni Affairs. As a scholar-educator, Faison has held professorial appointments at both the undergraduate and graduate level(s) in various academic disciplines including Political Science, Criminal Justice, and Business Administration. Faison is also a former state prosecutor having served as an Assistant District Attorney prosecuting criminal felony drug cases in Georgia.

Faison graduated Magna Cum Laude from Albany State University (ASU) with a Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) in English where he was an ASU Presidential/Foundation Scholar, ASU Velma Fudge Grant University Honors Program Graduate, ASU National Merit Scholar Graduate, an inductee of the Alpha Kappa Mu National Honor Society, and upon graduation was awarded for being the highest-ranking student in the University's Department of English & Modern Languages. He attended the University of Georgia School of Law (UGA) where he earned his Juris Doctorate (J.D.) and was a member of the UGA School of Law Executive Moot Court Board & UGA Law Moot Court Intra-State team. He is a licensed member of the State Bar of Georgia, Georgia Court of Appeals, Georgia

Supreme Court, the U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Georgia and is certified as authorized house counsel for Tuskegee University by the State Bar of Alabama.

Faison has completed post-doctoral study as a graduate of the Harvard University Graduate School of Education's Institute for Educational Management (IEM) and was a Millennium Leadership Initiative (MLI) Institute Fellow of the American Association of State Colleges & Universities (AASCU) & Association of Public Land-Grant Universities (APLU). He is a Gamma Cohort Fellow of the Higher Education Leadership Foundation (HELFF) and has earned the Certification in Fundraising Management (CFRM) designation from The Fundraising School of Philanthropy at Indiana-University-Purdue-University at Indianapolis (IUPUI). Faison is active in several professional, civic, and social organizations and has delivered over 25 presentations and lectures at conferences and professional meetings nationwide. He is a member of the National Association of College & University Attorneys (NACUA), National Association of Student Personnel Administrators (NASPA), and the Council on the Advancement & Support of Education (CASE). He has received recognition for his outstanding community and civic work by the *Greenwood Commonwealth*; ("Top 40 under 40" Young Professional); *Mississippi Business Journal* ("Top 40 under 40" nominee) and *Albany State University* in its inaugural publication of its "Top 50 ASU Alumni under 50".

He is the son of Alderman Faison Sr. and Dr. Jewel Faison and has been blissfully married for ten years to the former Tyciee L. White who is also a seasoned higher education administrator, educator, and ordained minister.

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Member Institution Equal Opportunity Institution Edward Waters College (EWC), accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges, and Schools (SACS) and member of the United Negro College Fund (UNCF), is a private, historically black, urban college which offers a liberal arts education with a strong emphasis on the Christian principles of high moral and spiritual values. EWC was established in 1866 and is an African Methodist Episcopal Church-related institution of learning. It is the oldest private institution of higher education in the State of Florida.