



MODERATOR BIOGRAPHY



**James Jacobs, Ph.D.
President
Macomb Community College**

James Jacobs assumed the presidency of Macomb Community College on July 1, 2008. Prior to his appointment, he concurrently served as director for the Center for Workforce Development and Policy at the college, and as the associate director, Community College Research Center (CCRC), Teachers College, Columbia University.

Dr. Jacobs has more than 40 years experience at Macomb, joining the college in 1967. He has taught social science, political science and economics. He has specialized in the areas of workforce skills and technology, economic development, worker retraining and community college workforce development, and is widely published in these areas of expertise.

Dr. Jacobs has conducted research, developed programs and consulted on workforce development and community college issues at the national, state and local levels. During his seven years with the CCRC, he was responsible for many of the projects in the area of workforce development, including a major study on non-credit workforce development. He is the past president of the National Council for Workforce Education, a national post-secondary organization of occupational education and workforce development specialists, and a member of the Manufacturing Extension Partnership Advisory Board of the National Institute of Standards and Technology and the National Assessment of Career and Technical Education. He is also a member of the Community College Advisory Panel to the Educational Testing Service in Princeton New Jersey.

Dr. Jacobs served as part of the research staff and a report writer for the Cherry Commission (Lt. Governor's Commission on Higher Education & Economic Growth) report, and was a member of the Visioning Task Force for Macomb County, a group convened by the board of commissioners to proactively plan for the future of the county. For the past 25 he has presented an Economic Forecast of Macomb County for the coalition of Macomb County chambers.

Dr. Jacobs earned his Ph.D. from Princeton University and has served on a number of community boards, including Peoples State Bank, Macomb Inter-Faith Action Center, United Way and St. John Hospital. He is also a member of the board of directors of the Community College Research Center, New York and the Center for Automotive Research in Ann Arbor, Michigan.