



January 9, 2019

Welcome to the New Year!

I am excited to welcome you back to our beautiful, historic campus and hope you had a restful and revivifying winter break. The new year brims with opportunity to refocus and recommit to our mission “[...] to prepare graduates to be well-rounded future leaders of high character and to be successful in the global marketplace of the 21st century.”

During the break I had opportunity to catch up on one of my cherished passions--extensive and sustained reading. I came across a quote from Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. that I believe Alcornites far and wide would enjoy: “The function of education is to teach one to think intensively and to think critically. *Intelligence plus character*—that is the goal of true education.” King’s quote captures and affirms none other than the Alcorn mantra: “*knowledge and character*”--the Alcorn difference!

The new year’s new semester affords all of us another opportunity to continue to make a difference in the lives of our students--and one another--by way of new knowledge and cultivation of high character. To that end, I provide you the Spring 2019 Semester Startup Memorandum c/o the Office of Student Records. I have received positive feedback that the startup memos are a big help to our hard working faculty and staff. Please access the link → [here](#).

Also, Alcorn is in the Decennial Reaffirmation Class of 2021. We will continue to expand our SACSCOC reaffirmation efforts during the spring semester. Look to hear more regarding committee assignments, data requests, the QEP initiative, the strategic planning process, and other meetings from Drs. Hart and Tolliver-Cook. Your cooperation with timely reports and/or responses is appreciated in advance.

I am pleased and honored to play a difference-making role alongside alumni, Cabinet members, chairs, deans, faculty, staff, supporters, and you in the noble work of developing future leaders of knowledge and character. Your work makes Alcorn great and keeps Alcorn looking great, inside and out. On behalf of President Lee and the Office of Academic Affairs, we laud the difference-making work you do in your own way. Moreover, we bid each of you a rewarding spring semester and productive 2019.

Go Braves!

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John G. Igwebuike".

John G. Igwebuike
Interim Provost & EVPAA