

**BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION**

Dr. Sandra Sims-deGraffenried

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**RECENT POSITIONS**

ASSOCIATE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, Alabama Nursing Home Association (ANHA), Montgomery, Alabama (January-December, 2008). ANHA represents over 225 Alabama nursing homes and offers a self-funded risk management program, is actively involved in the legislative arena, provides assistance to local nursing homes, and plans and implements numerous conferences and conventions.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, Alabama Association of School Boards (AASB), Montgomery, Alabama (July, 1988-June, 2007). AASB represents public school board members throughout Alabama and provides leadership for public education in the state.

As Executive Director, managed the affairs, programs, funds, and other resources of the Association including overseeing the risk management program and managing a substantial investment portfolio. Served as AASB’s spokesperson for newspaper and television interviews, responding to news media and other inquiries about educational issues from across the state.

**EDUCATION**

B.S.	Athens College, Athens, Alabama	Business Education, English, History
M.A.	Athens College, Athens, Alabama	Counseling and Guidance
AA Certification	University of Alabama at Birmingham	Vocational Education
Ed. D.	Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN	Administrative Leadership

**WORK EXPERIENCE**

2008	Associate Executive Director Alabama Nursing Home Association, Montgomery, Alabama
1988-June 2007	Executive Director Alabama Association of School Boards, Montgomery, Alabama
1985-1988	Assistant Executive Director Alabama Association of School Boards, Montgomery, Alabama

**PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION/ACHIEVEMENT**

Board of Trustees, Athens State University, 2012-17; Chair Pro-tem, 2012-2014  
Alabama Trust Fund Board, 2009-present  
Board of Directors, BWP & Associates  
Selected 2014 Distinguished Alumnus of the Year at Athens State University

Inducted in 2009 into the Alabama Educational Leadership Hall of Fame  
Southern Growth Policies Board, 2008-2013

Received in 2005, the Thomas A. Shannon Award for Excellence in School Boards Association Leadership  
Presented in 2004, the Alabama Association of School Boards' prestigious Champion for Children Award

Appointed in 2004 to Governor Bob Riley's Congress on Leadership

Appointed in 2003 by Governor Bob Riley to his Commission on Education Spending; co-chaired the subcommittee on Education Trust Fund Accountability and Education-Related Spending

Southern Region School Boards Training Center; President 2004-2007; Secretary-Treasurer 1993-2007

Featured in September 2002 *Business Alabama* as one of six of Alabama's most Accomplished Businesswomen

Featured in January 2000 *Business Alabama* as one of ten leading authorities from a broad range of public and private sectors offering their views of the state

Selected by *Convention South* magazine as a meeting planner to watch in 2002

Board of Directors of the Southern Regional Education Board (SREB), 2004-June, 2011

Board of Directors of the SouthEastern Regional Vision for Education (SERVE), 2000-2006

Board of Directors of the Alabama Civil Justice Reform Committee, 1998-2007

Education Commission of the States; Commissioner 1995-1999 and 2003-2007; Steering Committee, 1995-1999; Executive Committee for 1996-1998; Policy and Priorities Committee for 1997-1998 and Bylaws Committee; Nominating Committee for 1998-1999; Annual Meeting Planning Committee for 1999-2000

Lifetime Member, University of Alabama College of Education Board of Advisors,

National School Boards Association Liaison Committee, 1992-94; chair-elect 2000-01; Chairman, 2001-02

NSBA Leadership Development Subcommittee, 1997-98; 2000-01; 2001-02; 2002-03; Chairman, 2001-02

Award of Excellence in Associations Advance America, American Society of Association Executives, 1996

National Governors' Association Policy Academy on Managing Systemic Education change, 1994-95

Governor-elect Fob James' Task Force to study Alabama's finances, 1994

Achievement Award of Athens State College Alumni Association, School of Education, 1994

National Award in Governmental Relations, American Society of Association Executives, 1993

Governor Guy Hunt's Task Force on Tax Reform in Alabama, 1992

Board of Directors, Alabama Council of Association Executives, 1991 and 1992

Annual Vice Chairman of Crusade for Alabama Division of American Cancer Society, 1987-88; Co-Vice Chairman, 1988-89; Annual Crusade Chairman, 1989-90

Task Force to Study the Funding and Allocation of Revenues for Public Elementary/Secondary Schools in Alabama, 1988-90

KidPAC Board of Directors, 1988-90

## **PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS**

Honorary Member, Alabama Association of School Boards

Honorary Member, Alabama Council of Association Executives

Leadership Alabama

Public Affairs Research Council of Alabama

Former member of MENSA