



James E. Shepard, Founder

April, 20, 2021.

Naming Committee for the Atlanta School – **Mack Henry Jones**
Clark Atlanta University
Department of Political Science
223 James P. Brawley Drive SW
Atlanta, GA 30314

Dear Committee:

I alighted on the campus of Clark Atlanta University (CAU) then known as *Atlanta University (AU)* – around the middle of August 1987. I arrived with great anticipation to experience the house that **Mack Jones** contributed immensely to build – the Political Science Program at AU. I thought I was prepared for this journey by my advisor Allan Cooper who studied under Mack Jones. I was introduced to some of Mack’s work in my American Political thought class a year before my arrival at CAU. I did not know that the introduction to Mack’s work would be a life changing experience.

My first semester in the American Political Thought class at CAU was a re- introduction to the world of **Mack Jones**. Again, I had an opportunity to read *A Frame of Reference for Black Politics*. At that point, I arrived at a juncture in which Mack’s literature drew me closer to a better understanding of the social, economic and political challenges that people of color have continued to encounter globally. The framework that Mack outlined would later become the cornerstone of my teachings and program development in the discipline at various universities that I have worked. Mack’s focus on race, class, ethnicity and empowerment has remained profoundly important and relevant in recent times. His works and contributions to the political science discipline has been an enlightening journey for all students of political science at Historical Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) and Predominantly White Universities (PWIs).

Overall, I am indebted to the Atlanta School that was established by **Mack Jones** and his colleagues. In fact, the political science program at CAU is a world-renowned academic program that has prepared numerous academics and professionals globally. Therefore, I humbly request that the naming committee at Clark Atlanta University should name the Atlanta School – in honor of Professor Mack Jones for his vision and indefatigable commitment to the black political science experience nationally, regionally, and from a global context.

Sincerely,

Emmanuel O. Oritsejafor, Ph.D.
Professor of Political Economy &
Chair, Department of Political Science