October 22, 2015

Dear Notable Alumni Panelist:

As a leader in your profession, you serve as a beacon of light to our students as they embrace the global and mobile learning opportunities here at Jackson State University. Your panel discussions with alumni and students are gateways for student and alumni networking as well as to connecting our students to real world experiences and successes. By your participation, you demonstrate to our students and alumni the many positive impacts of a JSU education.

Thank you for giving back in this special way to your “dear old college home” during this Homecoming 2015 celebration. Let the good times roar.

Sincerely,

Carolyn W. Meyers
President
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October 22, 2015

Greetings:

As we assemble for another Homecoming Celebration, we are grateful to each of you for your willingness to dedicate a portion of your time to our current JSU Students. This personal interaction between students and alumni holds so much meaning for everyone involved. As you share your experiences and impart wisdom, you are assisting students with their own career goals and possibilities. You are also demonstrating your loyalty as an alumnus of Jackson State and ultimately, you are playing a major role in the successful college matriculation of these young scholars. YOU are the epitome of Challenging Minds and Changing Lives.

JSUNAA prides itself on helping to provide one of the greatest gifts we can offer, an education, a Jackson State University education. The JSU legacy is filled with magnificent tradition, intellectual challenges, empowering diversity, educational freedom, and a harmonious place to call home. On behalf of the National Alumni Association, I thank you for your contributions and invite you to enjoy all of the activities planned for the weekend.

Many thanks also to the Department of Alumni and Constituency Relations. I applaud their efforts to plan such an outstanding program. I look forward to working with each of you as we write the next chapter of this Alumni Story, and I salute you for the active role that you are taking in our alumni association. Your actions reflect your dedication in ensuring success of our students at our dear old college home.

Thank you again and enjoy homecoming – Let The Good Times Roar!

With Tiger Pride,

Yolanda R. Owens, President
Jackson State University
National Alumni Association, Inc.
October 22, 2015

Welcome Fellow Jacksonians:

We are so honored to have you back on the campus of our beloved alma mater. Jackson State University will always be the incubator of the best and brightest students from across the country. We are forever “Challenging Minds and Changing Lives.”

The JSU Notable Alumni Panels event is held during Homecoming Week. It is a joint venture of the Department of Alumni and Constituency Relations, the university’s schools, colleges and departments and the JSU National Alumni Association, Inc. It is designed to highlight and salute our most distinguished alumni and provide the opportunity for dialogue and exchange with our current students in their respective curriculum. Through this exchange, our students will be further motivated to continue their pursuit of knowledge at JSU and become active alumni.

To all of our Notable Alumni who will participate in this year’s panels, thank you for your faithful support. It is because of your unending commitment, JSU will continue to develop and shape the minds of the future.

We welcome you to participate and enjoy all of the Homecoming festivities as you reflect on past experiences and create new memories. JSU Tigers, we thank you, again.

Sincerely,

Tammy Terrell-Brooks

Tammy Terrell-Brooks
Director of Alumni and Constituency Relations
Executive Director of JSUNAA
Greetings Alumni,

Together in “Tiger World” at last, for there is no better place to be. On behalf of the Pre-Alumni Association, I would like to cordially welcome you all back to our “Dear Ole’ College Home.”

Your presence has truly been missed, but putting forward your positive energies in your respective places in society connects you back to this great college, which we all share. There is a distinct uniqueness that derives from Homecoming Week at THEE Jackson State University. From the informative Panel Discussions that take place in each college on campus to the Big Game at Smith-Wills Stadium on Saturday, each roaring Tiger has an opportunity to participate in contributing as “One JSU.”

As in my tenure of serving as president of the Pre-Alumni Council, my goal is making sure that we all receive the message and that it is very clear. Our purpose as a council this year is “Cultivating Longevity.” We understand that whether you are an Alumni or a Pre-Alumni Tiger, there is a responsibility to be filled be it in service, deed, or contributions/donations. However, our tenacity is in the cultivation because this is not a chore or a duty that we are required to do; it is an honor that we should all desire to do. During my term, it is my objective to ensure that Alumni get the opportunity to reach out, and they feel the satisfaction associated with giving back.

As a result, it is my goal that the Pre-Alumni Council will be able to recognize, first hand, the benefits of the strength of the Alumni Association as students, and will be eager to return the favor by following in the philanthropic footsteps of those who came before them. Simply put, we are striving to “Cultivate Longevity” by creating traditions that will leave an impression on those that participate as well as spectate that will last forever. Your innumerable participation this week as cooperating Alumni certifies that we are working as a unit on sharpening the pipeline from Pre-Alumni to Alumni by networking and developing programs and systems that will allow us to personally interact.

We, as the Pre-Alumni Council, commend you for all that you have done since 1877 to establish the foundation of this grand University that together we are continuing to assemble and construct. Above all, I appreciate you for remaining faithfully dedicated, loyal and true to the Spirit of the Tiger and the JSU Blue!

Sincerely,
Kendra Lewis
PAC President
2015-2016
Dr. Richard A. Alo’
College of Science, Engineering and Technology

Dr. Mario J. Azevedo
College of Liberal Arts

Dr. Robert Blaine
Undergraduate Studies and CyberLearning

Dr. Dorothy C. Browne
School of Public Health

Dr. Ricardo A. Brown
College of Public Service

Dr. Melissa L. Druckrey
Library and Information Resources

Dr. Ramin C. Maysami
College of Business

Dr. Dorris Robinson-Gardner
Graduate Studies

Dr. Daniel Watkins
College of Education and Human Development
3rd Annual Notable Alumni Panel Session
“Utilizing Cultivation Among JSU Alumni to Encourage Student Success”
Thursday, October 22, 2015
2:00 p.m.-3:30 p.m.

2:00 pm  Pre-Alumni Council representative will distribute evaluation forms

2:05 pm  Welcome
Moderator

This Notable Alumni panel discussion allows personal interaction with current students and alumni. It is intended to assist students with career goals, the abundance of career possibilities available post-graduation and the importance of alumni loyalty. Each student involved will have an opportunity to gain critical insight from a few of Jackson State’s most notable alums who have created successful and meaningful careers in their respective areas of study. The ultimate goal of this session is to motivate students in each college to continue their successful matriculation at the Jackson State University and become productive alumni locally and abroad.

2:15 pm  Introduction of Alumni Panelists

2:25 pm  Panel Discussion
Moderator strategically asks the panelists questions rotating throughout. After the panelist answers the question, it is encouraged that other panelists add comments and then the moderator is advised to move to the next question.

2:55 pm  Student Question & Answer Session
Students will have the opportunity to ask questions. More than one panelist can answer questions from students.

3:15 pm  Closing Remarks
Remind panelists of President’s reception; Remind students to complete their evaluation forms and return them to Pre-Alumni Council members as they leave.

3:25 pm  End, Evaluation Forms and Exit

4:00 pm  Presidents Reception
October 22, 2015

Dear CSET Alumni,

CSET and I personally, wish to extend our sincerest gratitude to you for sharing your valuable time and expertise with our students during what may be a busy time in your schedule. However, we are pleased to inform you that students at Jackson State University continue to produce prestigiously and with professional distinction. Allow me to share with you a few examples of excellence in innovation, teaching, research and service that impact today’s students and reflect on you, our esteemed alumni.

Examples of growth- We have expanded our degree programs to include:

**Undergraduate degrees**
- B.S. in Electrical Engineering (launched 2012); Graduated 6 Students in May 2015,
- B.S. in Biomedical Engineering (launched Fall 2014)
- B.S. in Statistics launched in Fall 2014

**Graduate degrees**
- STEM MBA and Master of Science in Engineering - concentrations in Computer Engineering, Industrial Engineering, Electrical Engineering, Computational Engineering
- Ph.D. in Computational/Data Enabled Science & Engineering (launched Fall 2014)
  - Big Data is a driver to millions of solutions, cures and better processes. This degree is a convergence of Data Engineering, Mathematics, Statistics, Advanced Computing and Computational Infrastructure, Scientific Method and Subject Matter Expertise. Its focus is on the collection, management and transformation of “Big Data” into actionable information that can answer some of the world’s most pressing problems. Big Data is interpreted into useful information for strategic decision-making.
- PhD in Engineering: Concentrations
  - Civil Engineering
  - Computer Engineering
  - Computational Engineering
  - Environmental Engineering
  - Geological Engineering
  - Industrial Engineering/Logistics
  - Computer Engineering Program- Has Over 200 Students
  - Electrical Engineering Program - launched with six students in 2013; 93 students Fall 2015
  - Student successes: Our students have excelled in top leadership roles throughout campus and have received awards and internships from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Lockheed Martin, Corning, Union-Pacific, MIT, University California Berkeley, University of Michigan, Great Minds in STEM (GMIS)
- New Department of Industrial Systems & Technology
- Faculty successes: ONE JSU CSET Faculty/Staff Excellence Awards
  - Dr. Lin Li (Teaching/Advising)
  - Dr. Paul Tchounwou (Research/Grant Writing)
  - Dr. Himangshu Das (Leadership/Service)
  - Mrs. Stephanie Reid-Small (Customer Service)
• Dr. Zikri Arslan – 2014-15 JSU HEADWAE Faculty Honoree
• Dr. Francis Tuluri: Invited by the White House Initiative on Educational Excellence to participate in a panel discussion on STEM Equity and Access at Washington, DC on September 22, 2015.

These examples of growth are amplified by CSET’s tremendous achievements this year.
• CSET Faculty authored 284 (162 collaborative) peer-reviewed articles, 118 peer review articles with students, 3 books and 21 book chapters.
• CSET presented 332 papers at conferences including 192 presentations by students
• CSET was awarded 98 federally funded grants amounting to over $15 million
• CSET Enrollment totaled 2,308 students (8.3% increase over 2013-14)
• CSET 2015-2016 enrollment is 9% greater than 2014-2015
• 224 CSET graduates in May 2015
• CSET Students received 88 Awards
• The College received 59% increase in private-gift giving: $286,414 in FY 14 to $478,552 in FY 15
• In 2014-2015 began new BS in Bio Medical Engineering (currently 7 majors) and in Statistics
• Pursuing ABET accreditation for BS in Electrical Engineering (Produced the first 6 graduates in May 2015), Fall Enrollment is 93 students
• Advanced strategic activities for Scholars Academy Program (Peer Led Team Learning; Faculty/ Student Workshops on Metacognitive Techniques to Improve Learning, Modify Behavior Characteristics, Increase Intelligence)
• ABET Re-accreditation
  • BS in Computer Engineering
  • BS in Civil and Environmental Engineering
  • BS in Computer Science

• ATMAE Re-accreditation
  • BS in Industrial Technology with 4 areas of emphasis, and a new concentration in Emergency Management

We aim to advance innovation in STEM through emphasis on our exceptional undergraduate and graduate programs, practical training, applied research, and commitment to recruiting highly motivated students. These efforts are helping JSU-CSET realize our future, as we continue to produce globally competitive scientists and leaders; this is not possible, however, without the generous assistance of our alumni and friends. Your contributions, in the way of sponsored internships, extended employment opportunities, time, and mentoring of our students are examples of the many ways you have demonstrated your dedication to the progress of the University. Your giving is an important investment that reciprocates back to the college and program of which you can be proud. Your continued support of our students, faculty, and CSET programs, help us enthusiastically produce today’s thought leaders.

Richard A. Alo’ Ph.D.
Dean
2015 NOTABLE ALUMNI PANEL: COLLEGE OF SCIENCE, ENGINEERING AND TECHNOLOGY
CSET/ENGINEERING BUILDING - AUDITORIUM
Dr. Earlexia Norwood ‘84 | Moderator

PANELISTS

Dr. Ehidanmegbe Akharume ‘04
General Dentist
Kool Smiles of Baton Rouge

Mr. Kenneth Archer, ‘85
Deputy Director Climate and Health
National Center for Environmental Health
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Dr. April Idleburg, ‘89
Systems Analyst
U.S. Drug Enforcement Agency

Dr. De’Jonnette Grantham King, ‘14
President/CEO
Advanced Environmental Consultants, Inc.

Dr. Dexter Lee, ‘92
Associate Professor
College of Medicine
Howard University

Ms. Eloise Liddell, ‘85
Global Customer Relationship Marketing (CRM)
Manager at Ford Motor Credit Company

Dr. Loretta A. Moore,’85
Vice President for Research and Federal Relations
Jackson State University

Dr. Earlexia Norwood, ‘84
Service Chief of Family Medicine
Henry Ford West Bloomfield Hospital
Director of Practice Development & Community Health Education
Henry Ford Medical Group

Dr. Barbara Ousby, ’97
Project Manager/Environmental Scientist – C&B Enterprise, Inc.
Adjunct Professor – Science/Biology Department
Hinds Community College

Mr. Samuel Patton, ‘82
Senior Quality Systems Consultant

Ms. Cheryl Pollard, ‘07
Sr. Systems Engineer
Aeronautics Division
Lockheed Martin
Dr. Ehidanmegbe Akharume ‘04
General Dentist
Kool Smiles of Baton Rouge

Dr. Akharume earned a Bachelor of Science degree (Magna Cum Laude) from Jackson State University (JSU) in 2004.

While pursuing her degree at JSU she was involved in several student organizations. She was a member of Tri-Beta Biological Honor Society, Alpha Chi Honor Society, and a proud member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.

After completing her studies at JSU, she went on to earn her Doctorate of Dental Surgery at Meharry Medical College in Nashville, TN in 2010. She received a post doctoral certification in Hospital Dentistry by completing a General Practice Residency at Meharry Medical College and Nashville General Hospital in conjunction with VA Medical Center in 2011.

Dr. Akharume worked in private practice for Smiles R Us Dental Center in Memphis, TN from 2011-2012 and has been working in corporate dentistry for the past three years at Kool Smiles of Baton Rouge.

Dr. Akharume strives to live up to her motto of her alma mater to improve the healthcare of the underserved community.
Mr. Kenneth Archer, '85  
*Deputy Director Climate and Health*  
*National Center for Environmental Health*  
*Centers for Disease Control and Prevention*

Kenneth (Ken) Archer is a 1985 graduate from Jackson State University receiving his Bachelor of Science degree in Biology. While attending JSU, Ken was very active as President of the Biology Club, Vice-president of the Pre-Health Society Club, and a member of the Sonic Boom of the South Marching Band. Ken is the current 1st Vice President of the Metro Atlanta Chapter of Jackson State University National Alumni Association, Inc., where he has been named Alumnus of the Year for two consecutive years for his tireless efforts to support chapter activities and for his willingness to volunteer with numerous community activities.

Ken has been a Public Health Advisor for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention since 1988. During the past 27 years, he has had field assignments in Ft. Lauderdale, FL (1988-1990), Tampa, FL (1990-1993), Philadelphia, PA (1993-1997). From 1997-1999 he was a Program Consultant in the Program Development and Support Branch, Division of Sexually Transmitted Disease Prevention (Atlanta, GA). From 1999 – 2002 he was the Section Chief of the National Pharmaceutical Stockpile, which is responsible for providing technical assistance to State and local planners on the receipt of the Stockpile assets in response to a biological or terrorist attack. From 2002 – 2006 Ken was the Deputy Chief of the HIV Prevention Program, providing over 400 million dollars in assistance to State and local agencies. From 2006 – 2012, Ken was the Deputy Management Officer for the National Center for Injury Prevention and Control, providing key leadership in the areas of violence prevention and unintentional injury prevention. Currently, Ken is the Deputy Director of the Climate and Health Program in the National Center for Environmental Health at CDC. He is on the White House’s Committee on Climate Change and the North American workgroup on Climate Change.

Ken has received several awards during his career: National Center for HIV, Viral Hepatitis, STD, Tuberculosis prevention Director’s Recognition Award for his outstanding leadership and contribution towards the Hurricane Andrew relief efforts (1992), Division of STD Prevention Director’s award for his dedicated service as Chair of the Field Staff Advisory Committee (1995), Special Service Award for his role and participation in the TOPOFF Bioterrorism exercise, and National Center for Environmental Health Employee of the Month for his efforts following the September 11, 2001 and Anthrax responses. Ken also received the Department of Health and Human Services Director’s award for his efforts while leading the CDC Team deployed to New York on 9/11/01. Ken was featured in the book, “Ready To Go: The History of Public Health Advisors” for his response to 9/11.

He is described by many as innovative, daring, astute, compassionate, humble and inspiring. He is committed to giving back to Jackson State University and assisting the school any way he can. Ken is married to Karen Anderson Archer and together they have four children, Kristen, Alexandria, Aaron and Kelsi.
April L. Idleburg is the Administrative Officer for the Drug Enforcement Administration's (DEA) Atlanta Field Division. She has a staff of 22 people and manages the fiscal, procurement, assets, personnel and transportation for a four state area that covers Georgia, Tennessee, South and North Carolina. She has also served as the Administrative Officer and the Program Analyst for the DEA New Orleans Field Division in New Orleans, LA.

Prior to these positions, Ms. Idleburg was the Supervisory Chemist for the Nashville Sub-Regional Laboratory (NSRL) in Nashville, TN. She began her government career as a Forensic Chemist at the South Central Laboratory in Dallas, Texas in 1992. She was responsible for the management and oversight of all laboratory operations for NSRL. She was formerly the Associate Laboratory Director of the Mid-Atlantic Laboratory in Largo, MD where she served the laboratory's Quality Assurance Manager for more than four years.

From May 2003 to October 2004, Ms. Idleburg was assigned to the DEA, Office of Training, where she provided training for State and Local Police Officers. More than 500 officers from throughout the continental United States, Hawaii, and Canada attended her sessions in the manufacturing process and synthesis of Methamphetamine. Her teaching included both lecture and hands-on synthesis of several clandestinely manufactured drugs. Most importantly, she provided instruction on how to safely dismantle clandestine laboratories and collect the necessary evidence for successful prosecution in the courts of law. During this time period, Ms. Idleburg was spotlighted by several television news programs and newspapers. She has published two scientific papers: “Pi donating Ability of Oxygen-17” and “Problems with the Detection of Marijuana Traces using IMS Instrumentation”.

Ms. Idleburg was born in LaGrange, Georgia. She received her Masters’ in Public Administration at American University in Washington, DC. in May 2006. She earned her Bachelor of Science Degree in Chemistry from Jackson State University, Jackson, Mississippi.

She is a lifetime member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., and Jackson State University National Alumni Association. She is also affiliated with the National Association of Black Narcotics Officers (NABNA) and the National Association for the Advancement of Black Chemists and Chemical Engineers (NOBCCChE). She served for three years as the Vice President of the DC Metro Chapter of NOBCCChE. Ms. Idleburg is also very active in her church and the Christian community. She is a Life Coach and Inspirational Advisor, and serves as Founder and Director of Really Good Girlfriend.com, LLC, an empowerment organization purpose to assist others in living out their purpose in life with passion and intent.

Mrs. Idleburg currently resides in the Atlanta, GA area; she strongly believes that “if I can help somebody...then my living will not be in vain!”
Dr. De’Jonnette Grantham King, ‘14
President/CEO Advanced Environmental Consultants, Inc.

Dr. De’Jonnette Grantham King is the President/CEO of Advanced Environmental Consultants (AEC), Inc. AEC (a woman-owned minority business enterprise) is a full service environmental, remediation, and demolition firm headquartered in Jackson, Mississippi. AEC has been in business since 1996. Since opening its doors for business, AEC has received numerous awards for outstanding services to the community. “Our experience with a variety of project management, engineering, environmental, and construction issues for a broad range of clients, provides us with a competent understanding of environmental regulations and technology, and their impact on business.” Dr. Grantham King’s strong commitment is confirmed as a scholar in her educational achievements which include: Bachelor degree in Chemistry, San Francisco State University, Master in Biochemistry, Master in Business Administration, and Ph.D. in Urban Higher Education at Jackson State University. Additionally, she is a graduate from Tuck School of Business at Dartmouth (Minority Business Executive Program). Dr. King has received numerous certifications in the local, state, and federal level, which validate her knowledge and skills to persist. Her role in the community is recognized in the following achievements:

- Featured in the Mississippi Business Journal as one of the top 40 firms on the move.
- 1985 Outstanding Young Woman of America
- 1997 ASPA Conference (Spokeswoman)
- 1998 City Council Resolution, Jackson, Mississippi
- 1998 Honored by Robinson-Watson Book Company
- 2000 Outstanding Minority Business Award/ Mississippi Minority Business Alliance
- 2000 Tuck School of Business/Dartmouth College/Hanover, New Hampshire
- 2000 Outstanding Minority Business Award/Minority Capital Fund of Mississippi
- 2003 Chairman's Award/ Mississippi Minority Business Alliance
- 2004 MDWFT/Thompson Foundation “Annelle Ponder Award”
- 2004 Business Advocate of the Year’ Women in Business/Mississippi Region/SBA
- 2005 Woman Business of the Year for the National Advisory Council
- 2008 Outstanding Service Award, Business Outreach Initiatives
- 2009 Outstanding Professional of the Year, Department of Commerce
- January 17, 2011 Featured in Forbes Magazine as National Environmental Leader
- September 20, 2012 Featured in Forbes Magazine 100 Most Powerful Women Issue
- June 15, 2015 Featured in Forbes Magazine America’s Richest Self Made Women

Dr. Grantham King’s leadership in the company is focused on growing her business but contributing to the community, the state, and the nation and this commitment is displayed in her everyday life with her involvement with the American Cancer Society, the Muscular Dystrophy Association, Liberal Trinity Senior Citizens Foundation, New Hope Christian School, St. Joseph Catholic School, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., Jack and Jill, Inc., and the Salvation Army. She is committed to bridging the gap between corporate America and workforce preparedness of recent graduates. This is illustrated strongly in her involvement. She prides herself on keeping her life in balance with a strong commitment to God and a loving family. She is married to Alvin King and they have one daughter, Kristian Shari King that came aboard with the firm in 2011.
Dr. Dexter Lee, ‘92

Associate Professor
College of Medicine Howard University

Dr. Dexter Lee earned a B.S., Jackson State University (1992), a M.S., University of Akron (1994) and a Ph.D., University of Missouri-Columbia (2000). He is also a Postdoctoral Fellow at Medical College of Georgia (2000-06). Teaching Areas - Lecture about Renal Physiology in the allied health, dental, graduate, medical and pharmacy student physiology courses. Dr. Lee current emphases are on the renal mechanisms for chronic blood pressure control during hypertension. Specific interests are to investigate the role of inflammatory cytokines on renal function and their contribution to blood pressure regulation. Dr. Lee has received the following Grants and Funding Awards:

- Latham Foundation
- National Institutes of Health Mentored Career Award (K01) (2008 – 2013)

Selected Publications:
- Katherine D LaClair, Kebreten F Manaye, Dexter L Lee, Joanne S Allard, Alena V Savonenko, Juan C Troncoso and Philip C Wong. Treatment with bexarotene, a compound that increases apolipoprotein-E, provides no cognitive benefit in mutant APP/PS1 mice. Molecular Neurodegeneration June 2013, 8:18
Eloise Liddell is the Global Customer Relationship Marketing (CRM) Manager at Ford Motor Credit Company, responsible for Ford Credit’s online consumer marketing for the Ford and Lincoln brands since 2009.

Ms. Liddell has held various management positions since joining Ford Credit in 2000, including Contract Originations manager and RouteOne Contract System Integration manager. She began her career in 1985 as a computer programmer with AT&T. During her tenure at AT&T, she progressed from programmer to manager of Treasury systems, to Data Center manager, responsible for the data maintenance services for more than 3000 business customers.

Ms. Liddell states that her background in computer science has been extremely beneficial to her success as a marketing manager. She feels that the only way to effectively market to customers is through the use of data. Her knowledge and success in marketing in the U.S. led to the appointment of Global CRM manager in 2014. As the Global CRM manager with Ford Credit, Ms. Liddell manages budgets and relationships with Advertising agencies and suppliers, and works closely with numerous vehicle launch and sales teams to deliver marketing that effectively promotes the Ford brand and reaches customers where they are.

Eloise is a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, and is very involved in the local community within the Detroit area. She currently serves as President of the Ford Credit African Ancestry Network, an employee resource group that promotes professional and personal development of employees, and supports programs that promote the growth and development of high school and college students. She is also a founding member of the Ford Credit Professional Women’s Network.

Ms. Liddell graduated from Jackson State University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Computer Science in 1985, and obtained a Masters of Business Administration (MBA) from Rollins College, Winter Park Florida. She is the proud mother of two, Jamaal and Elise, and believes that her biggest contribution has been the involvement in her children’s lives, and in the lives of those students that she mentors in the local schools.
Dr. Loretta Moore, ‘85  
Vice President for Research and Federal Relations  
Jackson State University

Dr. Loretta A. Moore serves as Vice President for Research and Federal Relations and Professor of Computer Science at Jackson State University (JSU) located in Jackson, Mississippi. She previously served as Associate Vice President for Research and Scholarly Engagement with oversight of the Academy for Research and Scholarly Engagement, which is designed to advance the careers of promising young researchers and emerging scholars by ensuring that they establish a compelling research agenda, participate in a community of scholars, and obtain external funding. Dr. Moore is the Principal Investigator on a grant from the National Science Foundation’s ADVANCE program, which is aimed at advancing the careers of female faculty in the Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) disciplines as well as the Social and Behavioral Science (SBS) disciplines. The project’s overall purpose is to transform the institution’s climate to promote equal opportunities for the advancement of all faculty. She also provides oversight for the Center for University Scholars, a program supporting faculty in their academic pursuits. Under her leadership, a year-long New Faculty Orientation Program has been instituted. She recently was awarded the Women in Higher Education Mississippi Network Leadership Award for the State of Mississippi. Prior to being named Associate Vice President for Research and Scholarly Engagement, Dr. Moore served as Interim Associate Dean for the College of Science, Engineering and Technology and as Chair of the Department of Computer Science, a position she held for thirteen years. She has held positions at Auburn University, AT&T Bell Laboratories, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, Army Research Laboratory, NASA Kennedy Space Center and NASA Marshall Space Flight Center.

Dr. Moore has received funding from agencies including the National Science Foundation, Department of Homeland Security, Department of Justice, Department of Energy – Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, Army Research Laboratory, NASA Kennedy Space Center, NASA Marshall Space Flight Center, NASA Headquarters, and Jacobs Technology. Over $10 million dollars have been received from these agencies to support topics such as Cyber Security, Computational Thinking, Intelligent Systems, Visual Analytics, Open Source Software Development, Human Computer Interaction, Computer Science Education and Research Experiences, and Broadening Participation of the Nation’s Workforce. Dr. Moore has published numerous articles and reports and presented more than 100 presentations on research, education, and strategies for organization change to enhance diversity of the Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) workforce. Dr. Moore serves as a Commissioner for the Computing Accreditation Commission of ABET and previously served as a Program Evaluator. She is a member of the Board of the Association of Departments of Computing at Minority Institutions; previously served on the U.S. Army Science Board; and currently holds membership in ACM, IEEE, and AAUW organizations. She is active in the recruitment, retention, and promotion of African-American Computer Scientists and actively supports the professional advancement of both students and faculty across all disciplines. Dr. Moore received her B.S. degree in Computer Science from Jackson State University and her M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in Computer Science from Illinois Institute of Technology.
Earlexia Montoya Norwood, MD is a board certified Family Medicine physician who has practiced with Henry Ford Health System (HFHS) since 1993. She is a graduate from the W.E.B DuBois Honors College of Jackson State University and the University of Iowa Medical School. She completed her Family Medicine residency at St. John Hospital in Detroit, MI. Dr. Norwood is currently the Service Chief of Family Medicine for Henry Ford West Bloomfield Hospital, Director of Practice Development and Community Health Education for Henry Ford Medical Group (HFMG), and Ambassador for HFHS Healthcare Equity Campaign. Dr. Norwood serves on the Credentialing Committee, and twelve years on the Board of Governors, HFMG. She has been honored annually since 2008 by physicians across southeastern Michigan, as one of Detroit’s “Top Docs” as noted in Hour Magazine. There have been many recognitions including: Detroit’s Who’s Who, Who’s Who of Health Care Professionals, Who’s Who of Women in America, Distinguished Alumni by the National Association for Equal Opportunity’s National Leadership Summit, Robert E. Birk Award for excellence in Research, Henry Ford Health System “Focus on People” Award, “Above and Beyond’ for the Troy Medical Center, and one of the featured physicians on Henry Ford Health System’s “Minds of Medicine” television program. Dr. Norwood was recognized as Jackson State University National Alumni Association’s (JSUNAA) 2014 Alumnus of the Year, and nationally as the 2014 Legacy of Leaders, Distinguished Alumnus of the Year recipient from the National Black College Alumni Hall of Fame Foundation.

Dr. Norwood is a member of the National Medical Association (NMA) House of Delegates, NMA Council on Medical Legislation, American Academy of Family Medicine, and American Medical Association. She is a preceptor and mentor for college students, medical students, residents, and nurse practitioners from Wayne State University Medical School, University of Michigan Medical School, Jackson State University, University of Detroit Mercy, Oakland University, and University of Iowa. Earlexia currently serves as the First Vice-President of Jackson State University National Alumni Association, and the Chair of JSUNAA Fundraising Committee.

Dr. Norwood believes in the power of knowledge and empowerment; therefore, she willingly shares medical information to increase awareness and life promoting behaviors. She’s a presenter to various national conferences, community groups, and organizations. Most of all she is a wife, and mother of two, desiring to live up to her fullest potential, while make a difference in the lives of many.
Dr. Barbara Ousby, ‘97
Project Manager/Environmental Scientist
C&B Enterprise Incorporated
Adjunct Professor – Science/Biology Department
Hinds Community College

Dr. Barbara Ousby currently serves at a Project Manager/Environmental Scientist at C&B Enterprise Incorporated. She is also an adjunct professor in the Science and Biology Department at Hinds Community College.

Dr. Ousby has earned a B.S. in Science Education and M.S. in Biological Science/Secondary Education from the University of Southern Mississippi and a Ph.D. in Environmental Science from Jackson State University.

Dr. Ousby’s military assignment is as follows:
• MAJOR/Promotable – United States Army Reserve
• Executive Officer - 7242nd MEDICAL SUPPORT UNIT MSU, Gulfport, MS
• 4010th US ARMY Hospital, New Orleans, LA.

LICENSURES/CERTIFICATIONS
• State of Mississippi -146753/Class AA/Biology and General Science (7-12)
• National Registry of Environmental Professionals/Registered Environmental Manager (REM)
• Office of Infrastructure Preparedness/Certified Infrastructure Preparedness Specialist (CIPS)

Dr. Ousby is the Immediate Past President of the JSU Madison County Alumni Chapter and a member of the Beta Delta Omega chapter, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.

She is a member of College Hill Missionary Baptist Church.
Mr. Samuel Patton, ‘82
Senior Quality Systems Consultant

Samuel Patton began his professional career by attending Jackson State University and acquiring a Bachelor’s Degree from the School of Industrial Technology. He balanced his academic life with an active pursuit of student involvement by being elected Sophomore Class President, Junior Class President and Student Government President (a first for the school of Industrial Technology).

He graduated with honors and was accepted into a select engineering program for new graduates at Hughes Aerospace. After holding various positions of increased scope, Mr. Patton decided to diversify his professional development through a career choice in medical device innovation and pharmaceuticals. He specialized in the area of Statistical Quality Systems and Regulatory Affairs.

Mr. Patton has held senior management positions in such leading firms as Boston Scientific, Medtronic and Novartis Pharmaceuticals. His latest position was Vice President of Quality Assurance and Regulatory Affairs for iSirona, A Nant Health Company. He continues to actively support the medical device and pharmaceuticals industry as a Senior Corporate Consultant for such firms as Johnson-n-Johnson and Thermó Fisher Scientific.
Ms. Cheryl Pollard, ‘07
Sr. Systems Engineer
Aeronautics Division
Lockheed Martin

Cheryl Pollard is a Sr. Systems Engineer within IDS Engineering, Systems Validation, Test, and Analysis Directorate (SVTAD), for Raytheon Company’s Integrated Defense System (IDS) business. She is a Control Account Manager (CAM) responsible for project management activities which include managing a $12M budget for the Qatar Patriot Radar Integration and Test program, and performing activity baselining, scheduling, budgeting, performance measurement, and variance analysis activities. Additionally, she was responsible for software testing validation, test execution, documentation, and data analysis for the Patriot Radar Surveillance team.

Before joining Raytheon IDS, Pollard was a Software Engineer and Systems Security Engineer for Raytheon Missile Systems (RMS), Tucson, AZ. In these roles, she was responsible for design, implementation, functional and qualification testing on several Air Warfare Systems products. She was awarded the 2012 Up and Coming Award for her work in systems security engineering and protecting systems from exploitation to help maintain reliability and affordability.

Before joining Raytheon, Pollard held internship positions at the Army Research Laboratory (Aberdeen, MD) as a Cyber Network Intrusion Analyst and the Center for Defense Integrated Data (Jackson, MS) Department of Homeland Research Projects as a Research Analyst.

Cheryl has recently accepted a position at Lockheed Martin Corporate Aeronautics division in Marietta, GA as a Sr. Systems Engineer supporting the Lockheed C-130 Hercules transport aircraft. Her primary duties will include the management of business, human life, and mission critical safety requirements through key phases of the software and systems engineering lifecycle.

Pollard is a member of the National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE), the Society of Women Engineers (SWE), the International Council of Systems Engineers (INCOSE), and Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated.

A native of Mississippi, Cheryl holds a Master’s degree in Systems Engineering from The Johns Hopkins University, Whiting School of Engineering. She received her Bachelors’ of Science degree in Computer Engineering from Jackson State University in 2007.
October 22, 2015

Dear Alumni,

It is my pleasure to welcome you home to the College of Business at Jackson State University and thank you for agreeing to serve on the Alumni Panel. Our students are looking forward to interacting with you and our faculty and staff are awaiting to visit with you again. You will also meet our new faculty and staff who will continue to teach and guide our students toward success as your professors at the College of Business did.

As Dean of the College, I am excited about the opportunity to meet our alumni and work with you, the family and the friends of the College, to continue the legacy of producing leaders. I applaud you, our graduates, for distinguishing yourselves in business, politics, education and many other fields and taking leadership roles in your respective areas of expertise. Our continuing goal is to actively engage alumni in our activities and to generate continued interest and excitement about the College of Business at Jackson State University.

We are among the 6% of Business programs worldwide that are accredited by the Association for Advancement of Collegiate School of Business (AACSB). Approximately 30% of Business Schools in the United States and less than 20% of HBCUs are accredited by AACSB, and we are one of them. Additionally, the College of Business at JSU is one of two HBCUs that offer a comprehensive Business Ph.D program. We are truly one of the elite.

Notable news at the College include the establishment of the Center for Academic and Professional Success (CAPS) to assist our students to be career-ready through infusing academic knowledge and professional skills, availability of the digital Wall Street Journal, free of charge, to all our students, and the full functionality of our state of the arts financial Trading Room.

I commend Alumni and Constituency Relations for launching this initiative. This parallels my plan to continue to strengthen the bond between our College of Business alumni and assist in developing a culture that teaches our graduates to give back to the University and the community.

Finally, please enjoy Homecoming Weekend at Jackson State, we hope that you will embrace the University’s theme of “One JSU” and continue to support the College of Business and this great University.

Sincerely,

Dean Ramin C. Maysami, Ph.D., CFP
2015 NOTABLE ALUMNI PANEL: COLLEGE OF BUSINESS
COB/PITTMAN LECTURE HALL – ROOM 134
Shani Walker, Senior Accounting Major President Accounting Society & SAC Secretary | Moderator

PANELISTS

Ms. Candice Elliott, '04
Senior Associate
Stinnett & Associates

Attorney Carlyn Hicks, '06
Child Welfare Lawyer–Family Defense Advocate
Mission First Legal Aid Clinic

Attorney Linda Lane, '05
Assistant County Attorney
Polk County Attorney's Office

Mr. Fidelis Malembeka, Jr., '05
Director of Risk Management and Human Resources
McDonald’s Franchise, My Joy, Inc.

Mark Newsome ‘86
Upstream Americas Commercial Revenue Manager
Shell Oil Company

Mr. Lanier Price, '94
CEO/Carter Price Investments
Coffee Distributor–Emerald Leader
Organo Network Marketing Firm

Mr. Thaddeus Reed, ‘07
Business Manager of Sales–Chemicals
Union Pacific Railroad

Mr. Anthony Webb, ‘94
Vice President, Sr. Business Relationship Manager
Wells Fargo

Dr. Homer Wilks, '78
Director, Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Team
USDA–NRCS
Ms. Candice Elliott ‘04
Senior Associate
Stinnett & Associates

Candice graduated Summa Cum Laude with a Bachelor of Business Administration in accounting in 2004. Candice earned her Master of Business Administration from American InterContinental University in 2006. She is a Certified Internal Auditor and also holds the Certification in Risk Management Assurance. Candice is a member of the Institute of Internal Auditors and the National Association of Black Accountants, Inc.

At Jackson State, Candice participated in various organizations, including the College of Business Student Advisory Council (Vice President & President), Accounting Society (President & Miss Accountancy), Students in Free Enterprise, the Society for the Advancement of Management and Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. She was a student in the W.E.B. Du Bois Honors College and was inducted into the Alpha Lambda Delta, Phi Kappa Phi and Beta Gamma Sigma honor societies. Candice was selected as the Outstanding Accounting Major and College of Business Student of the Year at the 2004 College of Business Banquet.

As a student at Jackson State, Candice interned with companies including Coca-Cola in Jackson, MS and Bank One in Chicago, IL. Both internships were obtained through the assistance of the College of Business Placement Office and support from dedicated JSU alumni. Before graduation from Jackson State, Candice received an offer for full-time employment as a staff auditor with KPMG, LLP in Houston, TX. This opportunity was a result of participating with the Accounting Society at the annual student conference sponsored by the National Association of Black Accountants, Inc. (NABA) Western Region.

Candice is a current Senior Associate in the Houston practice at Stinnett & Associates. She has eleven years of audit experience, including external audit, internal audit, regulatory compliance and SOX compliance, primarily in the oil and gas industry. Prior to joining Stinnett, Candice spent seven years with The Williams Companies in their Audit Services department. For the last seven years, Candice has been serving as the Director for the Accounting Career Awareness program for the NABA Houston Chapter, a program that exposes high school students to careers in accounting and other business fields. She is also a member of the Internal Audit Committee and Financial Empowerment Committee for the Houston Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta. As a member of the JSU Houston Area Alumni Chapter, Candice has returned to Jackson several times over the last 10 years to bring Houston area students to the annual JSU High School Day. Candidce is married to Eric Elliott, JSU Class of 2003 marketing graduate, and they have two daughters.
Attorney Carlyn Hicks ‘06  
*Child Welfare Lawyer-Family Defense Advocate*  
*Mission First Legal Aid Clinic*

A native of Jackson, Mississippi, Carlyn obtained her Bachelor’s Degree in Business Administration from Jackson State University, where she received numerous academic and service distinctions. Carlyn later earned her Juris Doctorate from Mississippi College School of Law in as well as her Masters in Business Administration. Carlyn received numerous honors and distinctions during her law school career. As a law student, Carlyn dedicated over 400 hours of Pro Bono service, providing legal aid and assistance to the underprivileged and poor. Upon graduation, Carlyn received special recognition from Mississippi College School of Law for her pro bono service and was awarded the Pro Bono Certificate of Distinction. She was active in several organizations during her law school career, including the Public Interest Law Group, Women's Student Bar Association, and the National Black Law Students Association.

For Carlyn, serving her community is not a weekend commitment or monthly tally of volunteer hours, it’s a way of life. Carlyn's passion for public interest law and public service is evident in her chosen career path as well. She dedicates her passion for service, her talents, and professional expertise to zealously represent the interests of the disenfranchised and underrepresented. For the past three years as the Parent Representation Program Director at Mission First Legal Aid Office, the legal aid organization of Mississippi College School of Law, Carlyn provides quality, pro bono legal representation to indigent parents involved at all stages of litigation in child welfare cases. This program, a pilot project made possible by a partnership between the Casey Family Programs, the Mississippi Supreme Court Administrative Office of Courts, the Rankin County Youth Court, and Mississippi College School of Law, seeks to provide a holistic and collaborative approach to family healing and reunification for those families involved in the child welfare system. Carlyn not only provides legal assistance, but she provides orientation workshops for parents to educate them on the Youth Court Process and navigating the Child Welfare System. She identifies resources that strengthen vulnerable families, participates in extensive out-of-court advocacy with community and child welfare professionals, provides guidance and counseling, and helps improve outcomes for indigent families.

At the inception of the program in 2012, Carlyn conducted multidisciplinary trainings with representatives from the Youth Court, the Public Defender’s Office, the County Prosecutor’s Office, Guardian Ad Litems, and the Department of Human Services to help shift the culture of child welfare and approaches to child advocacy, invoking more family-centered models. Through the parent representation program, Carlyn has assisted over 200 parents and 350 children achieve permanency in the child welfare system through reunification or some other family directed form of permanency. Carlyn was highlighted in the Winter 2014 Edition of the Amicus, an alumni magazine publication by Mississippi College School of Law, for her work in child welfare and family representation. Additionally, Carlyn is featured in the National Parent Representation Campaign Video: Giving Parents a Voice, which is available through the ABA's website. Carlyn is a certified Guardian Ad Litem and frequent workshop/CLE presenter. Most recently, Carlyn received the American Bar Association's Young Lawyers Division Child Advocacy Award for the work she does for children and families involved in the child welfare system.
Attorney Linda Lane ‘05
Assistant County Attorney
Polk County Attorney’s Office

Linda Lane is an Assistant County Attorney in the criminal division of the Polk County Attorney’s Office in Des Moines, IA. Ms. Lane is an honors graduate of Jackson State University where she received a Bachelor of Business Administration in accounting with a minor in political science. During her matriculation Ms. Lane worked for United State Representative Jo Ann Emerson in Washington, D.C. where she focused on constituent service and labor issues. She also worked for Federal Express Corporation where she performed national and international internal audits.

Upon graduation, Ms. Lane began her career as an Internal Auditor for Union Pacific Corporation in Omaha, NE. There she became one of two African Americans to hold the position of Audit Supervisor in the history of the department. During her time in Omaha, NE, she was a member of the Institute of Internal Auditors (2007 Membership Committee Chair), Association of Certified Fraud Examiners, National Urban League, UP Black Employee Network and a host of other volunteer organizations.

Thereafter, she attended Drake University/Law School in Des Moines, IA, where she received a Juris Doctorate and Master of Business Administration. During her matriculation, she served as an Iowa Division of Workers’ Compensation intern, prosecuting intern in the Polk County Attorney’s Office, a clerk for the Honorable Celeste Bremer of the United States District Court for the Southern District of Iowa, and studied aboard in Nantes, France.

Ms. Lane went on to work for a law firm in West Des Moines, IA, where she represented employers and insurance companies in the areas of workers’ compensation, employment law and civil liability. Currently Ms. Lane is a member of the Blackstone Inns of Court, Iowa Bar Association, Polk County Bar Association, and volunteers with several Des Moines, IA, organizations.
Mr. Fidelis Malembeka Jr. ‘05
Director of Risk Management and Human Resources
McDonald’s Franchise, My Joy, Inc.

Fidelis Malembeka Jr, a native of Zambia, a country in the South Central part of Africa. He grew up in Lusaka the capital city of Zambia and in 1994, his family relocated to Arusha, Tanzania, where his father ventured to open up a bank. While in Tanzania, Fidelis attended St. Constantine’s International School and held numerous student body leadership positions until his graduation in 1999. At age 15, he rose to national prominence in the sport of golf, by winning a National Golf Championship, which propelled his rankings into the top 10 in the country’s order of merit. At age 16, he was selected and qualified to represent Tanzania in an International Golf Championship, which was staged in his home country in Zambia. During that tournament, the All Africa Zone Six Championship, he was among 3 of the first youngest golfers to represent a country in the championship. His continued superb performance enabled him to continue to represent Tanzania in various international golf tournaments.

After graduating from high school, he received 32 golf scholarship offers to various Universities and Colleges in the United State of America. Out of the 32 Universities, he chose to matriculate at Jackson State University to pursue a degree in Business Administration. He has often been asked why he chose Jackson State amongst all the other universities, and his response has always been that his Coach, Eddie Payton represented the school well by showing the diversity on the team and the winning records in the conference championships. At the time of recruitment, Jackson State had won 14 consecutive conference championships. In July 2001, Fidelis traveled to Jackson, Mississippi to attend Jackson State University. While at Jackson State, he served as the Men’s Golf Co-Captain for 3 years and was a member of the conference winning championship team for all 4 years while at Jackson State. He and his team were featured in the HBO documentary on Real Sports in 2002. Also, he represented Jackson State on the National Golf Channel, showcasing the beautiful campus and talking about the successful golf program. As a student Athlete, Fidelis always maintained a GPA above 3.5 thus was awarded the honor for Outstanding Academic Performance and Contribution Toward Enhancing Global Education at Jackson State University. Additionally, he represented the Jackson State Athletic Department in the Division I NCAA Student-Athlete Regional Leadership Conference in his senior year. Fidelis was proud to graduate from Jackson State University in 4 years and took 18 and 21 credit hours during his senior year. Upon graduating from Jackson State University in 2005, Fidelis joined a local McDonald’s Franchise, My Joy Inc., as the Human Resources Representative. My Joy Inc. operates 22 McDonald’s restaurants in the Metro Jackson Area and employs about 1,200 employees with an annual payroll of 12 million dollars. Fidelis currently works as the Director of Risk Management and Human Resources for My Joy Inc., and among some of his responsibilities include oversight of all human resources management, business and financial analysis, risk management, contract negotiation, legal review, and business liaison. Fidelis is an active member of the Capital Area Human Resources Association where he was formerly the Diversity Chairperson, and the Society of Human Resources where he served on the National Diversity Advisory Panel. He is also a graduate of Leadership Greater Jackson class of 2008–2009. Fidelis serves on the Board of Directors of the Century Club Charities, Life Enhancement and Achievement Program, Inc., and sits on the Hall of Fame Selection Committee for Jackson State University Athletics.

Fidelis is an avid golfer, and currently holds professional membership in the Zambia Professional Golfers Association, and the Sunshine Tour. The tour is one of the six leading men’s tours which make up the International Federation of PGA Tours.

Fidelis is happily married to Precious, who is an accomplished golfer and former women’s golf captain of the Jackson State University Lady Tigers, and they have three children, Faith, Fidelis III, and Farah. They attend Liberal Trinity Church of God in Christ and the spiritual guidance of Bishop Hollis Musgrove and are members of the Country Club of Jackson.
Mark Newsome ‘86

*Upstream Americas Commercial Revenue Manager*

*Shell Oil Company*

Mark has over 25 years experience in the energy, communications, hospitality, and entertainment industries. He has held positions of increasing responsibility in accounting, auditing and finance throughout his career. He began his career as an accountant with Shell in Exploration & Production and Corporate functions.

After leaving Shell, Mark worked for Walt Disney and Time Warner. In 2005, he returned to Shell as Finance Manager within the US Downstream Controller’s organization and is currently the Upstream Americas Commercial Revenue Manager.

Mark is a Certified Public Accountant (CPA)-TX and Certified Financial Planner (CFP) with over 25 and 20 years of membership respectively.

Mark graduated Summa Cum Laude with a Bachelors of Science in Accounting from Jackson State University and an Executive MBA from the University of Florida - Warrington School of Business.

Mark is native Michigander who currently resides in Sugar Land, TX. He has two sons who attend Jackson State University and Oklahoma State University and is an avid sports fan of basketball, football, hockey, and European football with a passion for golfing.
Mr. Lanier Price ‘94
CEO/Carter Price Investments
Coffee Distributor—Emerald Leader
Organo Network Marketing Firm

Lanier Carter Price was born and raised in Las Vegas, Nevada. He attended Western High School, where he was a local football star, graduating in 1989. He praises a former high school football coach for educating him about historically black colleges and universities, as he was almost headed to UNLV or the University of Arizona. Instead he traveled to Mississippi to attend Jackson State University on a football scholarship, and finished in 1994 with a degree in Marketing, minoring in Mathematics. Since graduation, he has been an entrepreneurial trailblazer working in pharmaceutical sales, auto dealership financing and management, and restaurant and club ownership. He currently has his own construction business and investment company, Carter Price Investments, and is also a Coffee Distributor as an Emerald Leader with the Organo network marketing firm.

He is a member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., Beta Alpha Chapter, where he has been honored as Omega Man of the Year. He also attends Word and Worship Church. Lanier works tirelessly as a community volunteer with Stewpot of Jackson. He extends his volunteering efforts to young people in the community, as he engages local sports teams to assist in volunteering throughout the year. He is married to Regina Price, and is a devoted father of five handsome sons, Lanier II, Langston, Landon, Lawson, and Donovan.

Price’s free time is usually spent exercising and working out, working his kids out, and he is an avid reader, especially of any kind of inspirational or motivational literature.
Mr. Thaddeus Reed ‘07
Business Manager of Sales–Chemicals
Union Pacific Railroad

Thaddeus Reed works as business manager of sales–Chemicals at Union Pacific Railroad in the marketing & sales division in Houston, TX. He received his undergraduate degree in Management from Jackson State University and Masters Degree in Marketing from Bellevue University. In his current role he manages Liquid Petroleum Gas, Petroleum, and Crude Oil accounts that have annual revenue of over $80MM.

Thaddeus has held several leadership roles within the company. One of the key roles was being selected as the Vice President of the Black Employee Network at Union Pacific. While he was in office the organization saw record membership to date and he co-chaired the largest conference in company history with over 600 employees attending the national conference in New Orleans, LA.

Thaddeus has worked for Union Pacific for over 5 ½ years where he has received numerous awards that include but are not limited to: Rookie of the Year, Quarterback, Rock to Gem, and Customer Focus. Prior to joining Union Pacific he worked as a manager at several Walgreens Corporations stores in the Midwest. His stores were ranked in the top 2 in the Midwest Region. He has additional experience with the US Government and Entergy Corporation. He is married to the former Kalia Williams. He is the proud father of Thaddeus Jackson Reed.
Mr. Anthony Webb ‘94  
*Vice President, Sr. Business Relationship Manager*  
*Wells Fargo*

Anthony Webb serves as Vice President, Senior Business Relationship Manager for Wells Fargo Bank in Jackson, MS. A West Point native, Webb has over 20 years of experience in the financial services industry. Before joining Wells Fargo, he served as Vice President, Commercial Lender for a local community bank also in the Jackson market. He is an active member of the Jackson Rotary Club and serves on various boards in the area.

Webb holds both an M.B.A. and B.B.A. degrees from Jackson State University, and is also a 2009 graduate of the Graduate School of Banking at LSU.
Dr. Homer Wilks ‘78
Director, Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Team
USDA-NRCS

Dr. Homer Wilkes, a native of Port Gibson, Mississippi, currently serves as Director of Gulf of Mexico Ecosystem Restoration Team. He is one of the five Federal Executive Council members to oversee the rebuilding of the Ecosystem of the Gulf of Mexico after the BP Oil Spill of 2010. He served as the Acting Associate Chief of USDA/Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) in Washington during the period of 2010-2012.

During Dr. Wilkes’ tenure with the United States Department of Agriculture, he also served as State Conservationist for Mississippi; Chief Financial Officer for NRCS in Washington, DC; Deputy State Conservationist for Mississippi; Chief of Administrative Staff for the South Technical Center for NRCS in Fort Worth, Texas; Budget Analyst and Financial Manager in Washington, DC.

Dr. Wilkes also served as Naval Supply Officer in the United States Navy Reserves from November 1984 – December 2010.

He received his Bachelors, Masters of Business Administration, and Ph.D. in Urban Higher Education from Jackson State University. He also successfully completed the USDA Senior Executive Service Candidate Development Program (SES CDP) through American University’s Key Executive Leadership Certificate in Public Policy Implementation Program.

Dr. Wilkes and his wife, Kim have three sons. He enjoys fishing and family activities.
October 22, 2015

Greetings,

Please accept my warmest welcome to the College of Education and Human Development (CEHD), where we are home to 2,444 undergraduate and graduate students, and are known for being the oldest and largest college at “One JSU” Jackson State University (JSU).

Thank you for returning to your Alma Mater to invest your best efforts, and encouragement to all of our students. Because of you JSU and the CEHD are well represented in the state, country and throughout the world, for this we are grateful.

The College of Education is proud to present to you the following ongoing initiatives in our quest to produce more teachers for K-12.

- **Teach for MS** – A comprehensive process to increase the quantity and quality of traditional and alternate route teachers for urban Jackson and the Mississippi Delta.
- **Call Me MISTER** – An effort to place African American males in high-need elementary schools. (Mentors Instructing Students Toward Effective Role Models)
- **STARS** – An endeavor to empower single mothers to provide equitable outcomes for their sons through school readiness, early literacy and positive self concept activities.
- **Blackburn Initiative** – A collaboration initiated in 2013, between JSU and Jackson Public Schools (JPS) to form the first laboratory middle school in this area. The goal of this initiative is to transform Blackburn into a highly successful middle school.
- **Southwest Mississippi World-Class Teaching Initiative** – An initiative that provides mentorship by National Board Certified Teachers to pre-service and in-service teachers utilizing the National Board Professional Teaching Standards.
- **Young Males of Color** – A platform that will build and support young males of color to address academic, social, emotional and intellectual deficiencies through trilateral mentoring. The focus areas are educational leaders, community activists and family reformers.

You help make these initiatives realities, and we encourage your continued support. We need your time, expertise, and resources to assist us in educating Mississippi, the nation, and the world.

Please feel free to contact the College of Education at 601-979-2433 to play a role in our exciting future. GO ONE JSU!

Regards,

Daniel Watkins
Daniel Watkins, Ph.D., Dean
Education and Human Development
2015 Notable Alumni Panel: College of Education and Human Development
Joseph Jackson Building—Room 100
Dr. Lou Sanders | Moderator

PANELISTS

Ms. Michelle Bayne-Johnson, '03
Interventionist
Johnson Elementary School

Mr. Chan Cleveland, '01
Executive Vice President
The Kirkland Group

Mr. Dennis Dupree, '81
Superintendent
Clarksdale Municipal School District

Reverend Roy Jackson, '14
Pastor/Antioch M.B. Church
Vice President/The Second Christian Institute

Dr. Joyce E. Jenkins, '84
Dean of Career and Technical Education
Assistant District Director for Occupational Programs
Hinds Community College-Raymond Campus

Dr. Debra Mays-Jackson, '91
Vice President
Hinds Community College

Dr. Freddrick S. Murray, Jr., '01
Chief Academic Officer
High School Division
JPS District

Dr. Lou H. Sanders, '81
Professor/Librarian Emeritus
Jackson State University

Dr. Glenda Y. Windfield, '76
Educator
JSU Faculty Senate President Emeritus

Dr. Rhea Williams-Bishop, '89
Director
Center for Innovation (MSCEI)
Michelle Bayne Johnson ‘03

Interventionist
Johnson Elementary School

Michelle Bayne-Johnson serves as the Interventionist at Johnson Elementary School in the Jackson Public School District in Jackson, Mississippi. Prior to her role as Interventionist, she served as a third grade teacher at Johnson Elementary for six years. As the Interventionist, she is charged with assessing students, using data to assist in planning and developing interventions for students, leading the response to intervention (RTI) process, consistent progress monitoring, and addressing behavior issues.

Johnson has also worked as a high school Learning Strategies and English instructor for Canton Senior High School in Canton, Mississippi. She began her teaching career as a second-grade teacher in Jackson Public Schools at Golden Nathaniel Smith Elementary School. Michelle is very passionate about education and the importance of early literacy; so much so that she has also worked for over ten years as a certified tutor for Sylvan Learning Center in Jackson, Mississippi, where she works with individual students on specific skills and strategies in Beginning Reading and Academic Reading.

Michelle Bayne-Johnson received her undergraduate degree from Jackson State University in December of 2003. She was a proud member of the W.E.B. Du Bois Honors College and graduated with honors. She went on to acquire her Master of Education degree from Belhaven College (University) in 2005, and Specialist Degree in School Counseling from Jackson State University in 2010. She is currently working to obtain her Doctor of Education degree in Curriculum and Teaching from Northcentral University in Prescott Valley, Arizona.

As a leader in the field of education, Johnson has served as team leader during multiple school terms, as a lead teacher for 3rd-5th grades at Johnson Elementary School, and also as Johnson Elementary School’s Teacher of the Year for the 2014 school year. Johnson hold firm to her belief that all children are able to learn, and that effective teaching, effective school leadership, parent and community involvement are central to student success in academics.
Chan Cleveland currently serves as Executive Vice President of The Kirkland Group, a Ridgeland Mississippi-based educational consulting group providing technical assistance to school districts throughout the southeastern region. The mission of the Kirkland Group is to provide clients with customized support that results in improved academic performance for students and staff. Mr. Cleveland manages district projects and operations in over 100 schools and oversees Human Resources for over 90 staff members. In addition to handling office duties, he conducts training sessions for teachers specializing in the Mississippi English Language Arts College and Career Readiness Standards and Common Core State Standards.

After graduating from Carthage High School, he attended Jackson State University, where he received a Bachelor of Science degree in English. He also holds a Master of Science degree in English Education from Mississippi College. His teaching career began in Jackson Public Schools, where he taught middle school English and coached football. Mr. Cleveland also taught elementary school English in Hinds County Schools before serving as an accreditation specialist and teacher recruiter for the Mississippi Department of Education. As a teacher recruiter, he helped students throughout the state of Mississippi become certified teachers. While at the Mississippi Department of Education, Mr. Cleveland recognized the need to provide support for individuals trying to pass the Praxis exam. A series of events followed involving Praxis workshops, webinars, and tutorial sessions conducted and organized by Mr. Cleveland. Upon hearing of the Kirkland Group’s work, Wiley Publishing Company contacted The Kirkland Group to write a Praxis book for their Dummies series.

Mr. Cleveland has assisted students and teachers with attaining positive results on the Praxis, ACT, and K-12 English subject area exams. He is co-author of Praxis Core for Dummies and the soon-to-be-released Praxis II Elementary Education for Dummies. With over 15 years of experience as an educator, he has reviewed, revised, and developed English Language Arts curriculum documents for school districts and education organizations across the country.

Mr. Cleveland holds membership with the National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE), the Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development (ASCD), and the Education Industry Association (EIA). He is married to Veronica Cleveland, a fellow educator, and they are the proud parents of four children.
Dennis Dupree, Sr. is a native of Jackson, Mississippi, and is the youngest of five children. He is the son of the late Edna Johnson. Dupree is married to his college sweetheart, Shelia Sanders Dupree. They are the parents of two adult children, Dennis Jr. and Jasmine; and grandparents to three grandsons, Jonathan, Vincent (Trey), and Connor. Mr. Dupree's love of family and children overflows into the work he performs in schools every day. He is a servant leader who is intent on seeing that children reach their maximum potential. Dupree is a proud graduate of Jackson State University, Class of 1981. He earned his Master's degree from Mississippi State University and has done additional study at the University of Mississippi. With over thirty-four years of dedicated service in public education, Dupree continues to blossom as an educational leader. Mr. Dupree is currently in his 9th year as superintendent of the Clarksdale Municipal School District. Dupree oversees the operations of the school district's ten schools serving pre-kindergarten – 12th grade and approximately 3,000 students. His district is the county's largest employer where he supervises over 500 employees and administers an annual budget that exceeds $35 million.

As a result of his strong and focused leadership, Clarksdale is beginning to see a turnaround of historically underperforming schools. During his tenure in Clarksdale, Dupree has implemented a number of new and innovative programs including prekindergarten, an expansive arts program, magnet schools, Army ROTC, cosmetology, nursing, higher math courses in middle school, the implementation of a security force with school resource officers, the implementation of the very demanding Cambridge program at the secondary schools, and the development of a 9th Grade Academy. Upon arriving in Clarksdale in 2007, Dupree implemented paperless school board meetings, a Student Advisory Committee, a Superintendent’s Roundtable, and a district-wide Parent Center to get parents more active and involved in the schools while also enhancing parents' academic and occupational skills.

Lacking the funding of affluent districts because of Clarksdale’s low tax base, Dupree and his staff have aggressively sought and been awarded phenomenal amounts of external funding. He used QZAB Funding to build a brand new Performing Arts Center on his middle school campus. Since the fall of 2013, the District has been successful in securing in excess of $17 million. Clarksdale is the first and only district in Mississippi to receive a federal Race to the Top (RTTT) Grant. The $10 million RTTT grant will make available to each student his/her own technology device to aid in the learning process. Among his professional accomplishments of which he is most proud are his selection by Education Week as one of 16 Leaders to Learn From across the nation in its inaugural group in 2014, designation as Alumni of the Year at his alma mater, Lanier High School, in 2008, DAAIS Superintendent of the Year in 2012 and Administrator of the Year during his tenure in the Columbus Municipal School District. Dupree was a President's List scholar during his undergraduate years at JSU and was recognized for attaining the highest scholastic average among his college football teammates.
Rev. Roy L. Jackson is the oldest of ten children born to Donna M. Jackson. He is a native of Jackson, Mississippi, where he attended the Jackson Public Schools. After graduating from High School in 1976, he enrolled at JSU as a social work major. After completing one semester, he enlisted in the Mississippi Army National Guard and received an Honorable Discharge after serving 34 years. After retiring at 53, he decided to return to JSU.

Roy completed his degree in Professional Interdisciplinary Studies with a Concentration in Social Work; marching at graduation with his son, Ramon L. Jackson. At present, Roy is the pastor of Antioch M.B. Church of Jackson, Vice President of The Second Christian Institute of Hinds, Madison, and Adjoining Counties, and is working toward a Master’s Degree in Public Administration at Belhaven University.

Rev. Jackson is married to Mrs. Lorraine Hudson-Jackson, also a Jackson State University graduate. They have two children, Ramon and Regan. Both are music majors at Jackson State University, and each family member contributes in the music legacy of the Sonic Boom Marching Band as participants.

His awards include: Patient Administration Specialist Correspondence Course; Guardsmen of the Month; 134th Combat Support Hospital (-), Jackson, MS. Patient Administration Course; Academy of Health Science; Member of 8th Basic NCO Class; Battle Skills Course Graduate; NBC Offense School Diploma; Joint Medical Readiness Training; 213th Medical Brigade (Celtic Cross); Certificate of Recognition for outstanding service of the Cold War; Basic Non-commissioned Officer for Reserve Components; 154th Regiment 4th General Studies Battalion (Environmental Compliance Officer Course). Alamo Safety Organization (Accident Prevention Orientation Course); Alamo Safety Organization (Accident Investigation Orientation Course); Certificate of Training (MEDPRÓS); Alamo Safety Organization (OSHA 1st Line Supervisor Course); Mississippi War Medal; Mississippi Emergency Service Medal, Mississippi Commendation Medal; Eight Mississippi Longevity Medal; Two Army Commendation Medal; Army Service Ribbon, Army Reserve Components Overseas Training Ribbon; Two Non-Commissioned Officers Professional Development Ribbon; Two Armed Forces Reserve Medal; Two National Defense Service Medal; Army Achievement Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal; Humanitarian Service Medal; Armed Forces Service Medal; Five Army Good Conduct Medal.
Dr. Joyce E. Jenkins ‘84  
Dean of Career and Technical Education Employer

Dr. Joyce Jenkins is the Dean of Career and Technical Education and the Assistant Director for Occupational Programs at Hinds Community College—Raymond Campus.

Dr. Jenkins has held the following positions and appointments:
- Assistant District Director for Occupational Programs - Hinds Community College
- Dean of Career and Technical Education - Hinds Community College
- Assistant Dean of Career and Technical Education - Hinds Community College
- Faculty - Hinds Community College

Dr. Jenkins Publications are:
2. Certifications In Computer Areas — The Demand For Hiring Employees With Various Certifications: An Assessment Of The Workplace Skills Desired For Placement Of Mississippi Community College Information Systems Technology Completers (Doctoral Dissertation Mississippi State University, May 2005).

Adjunct Faculty
Mississippi College
Hinds Community College
Jackson State University

Synergistic Activities
Students Making Academic Career Choices – Program - Developmental Program which offer mentoring, guidance, tutorials on specific one-on-one support. Students are given opportunity to visit career and technical classes in an effort to make sound career choices. The other program goals:
1. Testing the theory that students would be more successful in their first semester of college if they were completely ready to start the semester with all of the necessary materials and documentation properly filed
2. Exposing these underprepared students to the many career choices available at Hinds
3. Providing a quicker path to completing the developmental sequence prior to entering college-level classes.

The National Coalition of Certification Centers- Partnership to develop, implement and sustain industry-recognized portable certifications that have strong validation and assessment standards. Career and Technical Education has the implemented of the "new stackable credentials curriculums. This programs now multiple entry and exit points along with students have access to earn many industry certifications.

Collaborators & Other Affiliations
- CCTODA Chief Career &Technical Officers Dean's Association
- MS-ACTE Mississippi Association for Career and Technical Education

In 1984, Dr. Jenkins received a Bachelor of Science in Education in Business Education and Administrative Services at Jackson State University. She earned a Masters and Specialist degree in Business Education. In 2005, she earned a Doctor of Philosophy in Education in Technology Education, Higher Education/Educational Leadership. In 2013, she has also received a certificate in Educational Leadership from MS Community College Leadership Academy in Jackson, MS.
Dr. Debra Mays-Jackson ‘91  
_Vice President Hinds Community College_

Dr. Debra Mays-Jackson is a native of Terry, Mississippi. She received her high school diploma from Terry High School. She received an Associate Degree in Music Education with emphasis in Piano Performance from Hinds Community College - Utica Campus.

Dr. Jackson received her Bachelor of Arts Degree in Music - Piano Performance, Master of Arts in Music Education, and her Specialist Degree in Education Administration and Supervision from Jackson State University. She received a Doctor of Philosophy in Education Administration and Supervision for Elementary, Middle and Secondary Schools from Mississippi State University. Instructionally, Dr. Jackson served as choral director at Powell Middle School in the Jackson Public School District for five years. Later she served five years as choral director at Canton High School in the Canton Public School District.

Dr. Jackson served eleven years as an administrator in the Jackson Public School District. She served two years as assistant principal at Hardy Middle School and three years as assistant principal at Murrah High School. Dr. Jackson completed five years as principal of Forest Hill High School where she was commended and nationally recognized for leading the school from underperforming to successful status, and attaining that status four consecutive years. After five years of a successful “principalship,” she solidly established herself as a standout change agent within the public education arena and was promoted to Executive Director of Academic Support for High Schools. During her one year tenure she made many positive changes that enhanced the performance of the high school division.

A few of Dr. Jackson’s highlights include:

- First Female Vice President of Hinds Community College - Utica Campus (Formerly Utica Community College, A Historically Black College established in 1903 by William H. Holtzclaw)
- Mississippi Department of Education - 2012 Administrator of the Year Congressional Finalist
- Jackson Public School District - 2011 Administrator of the Year
- Featured in “Portico Jackson” Magazine - June 2011 as “One of Mississippi’s Outstanding Administrators”
- One Church One School - 2010 Outstanding Educator of the Year
- Mississippi Scholastic Press Association - 2009 Administrator of the Year
- First Female & African American Principal of Forest Hill High School
- Lead Forest Hill High School from “Low Performing” school status to “Successful” school status
- Principal Coach – Jackson Public Schools

Dr. Jackson is now serving as Vice President of Hinds Community College and supervises all operations of the Utica and Vicksburg-Warren Campuses. Her duties also include Administrative Services (EEOC, Affirmative Action & Civil Rights) Representative for all six (6) campuses of Hinds Community College.

Dr. Jackson is married to Mr. G. Torrie Jackson, Jr. and they have two sons, Cameron and Kendall.
Dr. Freddrick S. Murray '01

Chief Academic Officer
High School Division Jackson Public School District

Dr. Freddrick Murray is the Chief Academic Officer for the High School Division in the Jackson Public School District which is the second largest and the only urban district in the state of Mississippi. In this capacity he is directly responsible for the day to day operation of 7 High Schools and 1 Career and Technical Center. This division serves over 8,000 students and has nearly 500 instructional employees. Since his appointment as Chief Academic Officer of High Schools Dr. Murray has been instrumental in helping the high school division increase the number of successful high schools to four and decrease the number of failing high schools to zero. He has also led the implementation of the Academies of Jackson and a 1:1 technology initiative in which over 2,200 ninth grade students received MacBook Air laptop computers.

Prior to joining the central office leadership team in JPS, Dr. Murray served as a building level principal at the Elementary level, the middle school level and the high school level. During his tenure at each appointment he was able to move the schools rating to a higher level. At Murrah High School, he led the school to a national rating as one of the top 500 high schools in America 3 of the 6 years that he was principal.

Dr. Murray has a B.S. degree in Elementary Education, M.S. degree in Educational Administration and a Ph.D. in Educational Leadership and supervision all from Jackson State University. He also has completed the Principals Institute and the National Institute for Urban Leaders Institute both at Harvard University.

Dr. Murray is a member of several community and professional organizations. He is a member of Mississippi Association of School Administrators and National Alliance of Black School Educators. He is also a member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Epsilon Kappa Kappa Chapter, Canton Mississippi, a graduate of Leadership Jackson, member of Alignment Jackson Operating Board, High School Committee Co-Chair, past member of St. Dominic’s Hospital Advisory Board and past member of the 100 Black Men of Jackson.

Dr. Murray is married to Linda Bates Murray and he has two sons Jahcari and Freddrick III and a Daughter Dominique. He is also the proud grandfather of Ryan (4) and Jahcari Jr. (2)
Dr. Lou Sanders ‘81  
Professor/Librarian Emeritus  
Jackson State University

Lou H. Devine Sanders, Ph.D., a native of Bolton, MS, and former sharecropper, has spent her entire professional career at Jackson State University. As a Professor/Librarian Emeritus in the College of Education and Human Development, she has ascended through the ranks with a spirit of excellence for nearly four decades.

In spite of Dr. Sanders’ humble beginnings, her educational matriculation has been laudable and includes: Sumner Hill High School, diploma, (Honors); Jackson State University, B.A., English Literature and Library Science, (Salutatorian); University of Michigan, AMLS, Library Science, (Honors); Jackson State University, Ed.S., Educational Administration, (Honors), and the University of Pittsburgh, Ph.D., Library and Information Science, (All As and one B+).

After fifteen years of distinctive and exemplary librarianship, Dr. Sanders was promoted to Dean of Libraries, during her thirties, the youngest person to ever assume this position. She inherited a library deplete of technology and having just graduated from Pittsburgh where technology abounded, she zealously began a quest to better Jackson State University libraries. Initially, the latest technology was secured on consignment due to the lack of funding. Her creative efforts resulted in more than $1.9 million in grantsmanship funding to bring a non-technology library to a pre-eminent library with hundreds of state-of-the-art computers and other related paraphernalia. In addition, the latest and greatest library automation system and the accompanying modules were installed, along with an award-winning website.

During the twelve-year tenure as the library administrator, from 1994-1998, she conceptualized and aided in the design of the $13.5 million Henry T. Sampson Library expansion/renovation project that won the 1998 Architecture Digest Award for the best new library structure for that year. Dr. Sanders has become a strong advocate of the student-centered teaching and learning process. As a result, a primary course that she teaches has become so popular with students that all sections are usually filled to capacity each semester.

As evidenced by her academic success and leadership, Dr. Sanders was the recipient of the Jackson State University Inaugural Excellence Award; the Craig Bluntson Senior Citizen Volunteer Award Citation; and has received the Annual Department of Educational Technology Teaching and Advising Excellence Award since 2005-2015, to name a few. This Jackson State alumna consistently nurtures, mentors and provides emotional support for a cadre of students. She is such a proponent for student success that she established the Dr. Lou Helen Devine Sanders Endowment Fund at the $50,000 level to pay testing fees for students as they prepare for Teacher Certification. Dr. Sanders is an ordained Elder, and mother of one adult daughter, Nicol, and son-in-law, Kenneth and recently became the grandmother of a four-year-old, Jaylon.
Dr. Rhea Williams-Bishop, ‘89
Director
Center for Education Innovation (MSCEI)

Rhea Williams-Bishop is the Director of the Center for Education Innovation (MSCEI) in Jackson, Mississippi, a non-profit education intermediary focused on impacting and transforming education through engagement and innovation. Earlier in her career, she worked for two organizations touted by Fortune Magazine as non-profit organizations “most likely to change the world” – Children’s Defense Fund (CDF) and Communities in Schools (CIS). During her 13 year career with the CDF, she served as Executive Director of Supporting Partnerships to Assure Ready Kids (SPARK) and as the Deputy Director of Southern Regional Office.

A magna cum laude graduate of Jackson State University - B.A. in Urban Affairs with a business concentration 1989, Master of Public Policy and Administration 1991, and Ph.D. in Educational Leadership 2014, Rhea has also completed the following leadership programs: Rockefeller Foundation Next Generation Leadership National Program, Leadership Mississippi and Leadership Madison County and was selected by the Mississippi Business Journal as one of the Top 10 Business Women in 2012 and one of the “Top 40 Under 40” in 2008. She was also honored by the University of Southern Mississippi’s School of Social Work in 2009 with the Friend of Children Award.

She serves on the following education boards/councils: Convener of the MS Learning Lab, State Early Childhood Advisory Council (SECAC), Alignment Jackson, and MS Building Blocks. She has also served as Chair of the Mississippi Coalition for Children’s Welfare and founding board member of Excel by 5. Rhea is active in the Jackson metro community and holds memberships in the following professional, social and civic organizations: Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. Madison County Alumnae Chapter, JSU Alumni Association, LeFleur’s Bluff Chapter of the Links, Inc., Central Mississippi Chapter of the National Coalition of 100 Black Women (founding member), JSU Women's Council for Philanthropy, and Mississippi Alliance of Black School Educators (MABSE).

A sixth generation Mississippian born in Greenville, MS, reared in Carthage, MS, she and her husband, Bev Bishop II (3rd generation Jacksonian), are the proud parents of three children: Trey (JSU Senior & 4th generation Jacksonian), Mimi, and Russell. She and her family are members of Pilgrim Rest M.B. Church.
Dr. Glenda Windfield holds an earned doctorate degree in special education with a minor in educational administration from the University of Southern Mississippi at Hattiesburg, Mississippi. Her undergraduate and master's degrees in music education; and specialist degree in special education were awarded from Jackson State University (JSU) at Jackson, MS.

Dr. Windfield is a licensed Mississippi educator who received endorsements in instrumental music, special education (i.e., visual impairment, specific learning disabilities, and emotional disability), and non-practicing administrator. Her professional experiences include: serving as a music arranger for the JSU Sonic Boom of the South, teaching at Mississippi School for the Blind, serving as the first Supported Employment Services Coordinator at Mississippi Vocational Rehabilitation for the Blind (MVRB), educational consulting and faculty member in the JSU Department of Special Education. Windfield served as JSU Faculty Senate president for 2½ years.

Windfield’s honors and research activities include, but not limited to: 2014 Presidential Creative Awards, JSU Center for Service and Community Engaged Learning Faculty Fellow, University Scholars Fellow, Research Fellow Developmental Studies Center, Star Teacher, Top Junior Faculty Research Recipient, Performance-Based Pay Recipient, Margaret Walker Alexander Appreciation Award, JSU Professors Who Inspired Alpha Kappa Muans, Research Fellow-Mississippi Urban Research Center, Outstanding Young Women of America, and Who's Who Among American Colleges and Universities. She has also received awards in teaching effectiveness, research and collegiality. She has served as a reviewer of scholarly works for book publishers, grants reviewer for the Mississippi Department of Education and the United States Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services.
October 22, 2015

Dear College of Liberal Arts Alumni:

Thank you for your continued investment in Jackson State University and the College of Liberal Arts, the Foundation of Excellence, through your participation in the 2015 Notable Alumni Panel. Your presence among us, where our students can see and hear first-hand your journey to success, is a vivid example of the relevance of the JSU educational experience. The university, the college, and the dean's office are most appreciative.

A number of wonderful programs and initiatives are part of the College of Liberal Arts’ agenda. Among others, the Sonic Boom of the South is well known nationally and will continue to perform professionally and competently. The Margaret Walker Alexander Center is celebrating its namesake’s centennial with a yearlong slate of programs and activities. The Department of Mass Communication has a new Chair and will eventually become the School of Journalism and Media Studies to ensure that we equip our students with the appropriate skills for a communications industry that is being changed rapidly by technology. We are excited about all of this.

We invite you to nurture our growth and urge you to increase your personal investment in the University and the College of Liberal Arts. There are many ways you can assist us in reaching our potential. As a JSU graduate, you are a great ambassador to potential students, parents, and educators. We would welcome your help particularly with recruitment. You also can play a key role in helping our students to enter the workforce, whether as a mentor or as an entree to your employer or others.

Finally, you can assist us by investing in us financially. Why not endow a scholarship or contribute to a valuable program or project in your former department? As state appropriations fluctuate, we will need to depend upon you and other alumni to help ensure that JSU and the College of Liberal Arts can continue to serve its students in the ways it has served you.

Again, thank you for your continued loyalty and support. Thank you for all you do for Jackson State University and the College of Liberal Arts.

Sincerely,

Mario J. Azevedo
2015 Notable Alumni Panel: College of Liberal Arts
Dollye M. E. Robinson Building - Lecture Room 146
Dr. Dean Wiley, '67, University Professor/Administrator Retired | Moderator

**PANELISTS**

Attorney Jeffrey M. Graves, '06  
Associate Attorney  
Musgrove/Smith Law Firm

Councilman Tyrone Hendrix, '06  
Ward 6 Councilman  
Jackson, MS

Ms. Lorraine Jackson, '82  
Music Teacher  
Johnson Elementary School

Dr. Lewis Liddell, '67  
Former Associate Professor of Music,  
Former Director of Bands/Coordinator of the Instrumental Division  
Jackson State University

Mr. Jerry Mannery  
President  
Faith-Based Communications

Attorney Joi Owens, '09  
Managing Attorney and Legislative Liaison  
Disability Rights Mississippi

Dr. Ivory Phillips, '63  
Researcher/Writer  
Former JSU Dean Emeritus for Education

Mr. Edward Saint Pe’  
CEO of WeatherVision  
Adjunct Professor of Broadcast Meteorology  
Jackson State University

Dr. Estus Smith, '53  
Vice President and Chief Operating Officer Emeritus  
Jackson State University

Dr. Dean Wiley, '67  
University Professor/Administrator Retired
Jeffrey Matthew Graves is an associate attorney at Musgrove/Smith Law, a boutique law firm founded by former Gov. Ronnie Musgrove. Prior to joining Musgrove/Smith in 2014, Jeffrey worked as an associate attorney at Copeland, Cook, Taylor, & Bush, P.A., one of Mississippi’s largest and most respected defense firms. Jeffrey has experience in business defense and plaintiff representation.

Jeffrey is a native of Jackson, Mississippi. He is a graduate of Jackson's Murrah High School, where he served as drum major of the school’s marching band. Due to his love for music, and the desire to someday be an executive in the music industry, Jeffrey began his college career as a Music Industry major at The University of Southern Mississippi in Hattiesburg, Mississippi. During his junior year, Jeffrey transferred to Jackson State University, where he continued pursuing a music degree. In 2006, Jeffrey graduated from Jackson State with honors with a degree in Music.

Upon receiving his Bachelor’s Degree, and realizing he couldn't become a millionaire making music, Jeffrey began working as a mortgage loan originator with Bank Plus. Unfortunately, Jeffrey joined the mortgage industry during the recession and the subprime mortgage crisis. As a result, his mortgage-lending career was short-lived, and he eventually decided to continue higher education.

In 2009, Jeffrey began his legal career at The University of Mississippi School of Law. During law school, he served as a charter member of the Mississippi Sports Law Review, the only sports law review in the Southeastern Conference. Jeffrey received his law degree in 2012.

When he is not practicing law, Jeffrey enjoys making music, working out, and spending time with his family. Jeffrey lives in Jackson with his wife and daughter.
Tyrone Hendrix is a husband, father, community organizer, community activist, businessman, and Ward 6 Councilman. He has faced many dark obstacles while traveling through life’s journey, but he transformed these experiences into a bright torch that ignites a passion within to help others. He may wear several hats, but he credits his love for people and his commitment to improving the welfare and lives of citizens in our community as motivation for becoming a public servant. Councilman Hendrix is a native of Jackson, Mississippi, and is the son of Henry Hendrix and the late Pondra Hendrix. He was raised and has lived in South Jackson for the majority of his life. A proud product of Jackson Public Schools, Tyrone attended Peeples Middle School and graduated from Forest Hill High School. From there, he went on to Jackson State University, where he earned a Bachelor’s of Science in Psychology as well as a Master of Arts degree in Political Science.

Tyrone’s life changed when his mother passed away when he was only thirteen. He watched his mother struggle with illness because she was unable to afford quality health care. Seeing this compelled Tyrone to commit himself to public service – as he says – “I wanted to work to ensure that others would not have to suffer like my mom did.” Tyrone began his career as a community organizer in low-to-moderate income neighborhoods, where he worked to empower citizens to improve their communities. Working closely with residents, Tyrone fought for community policing, additional streetlights, living wage ordinances, and the construction of speed bumps in residential areas. Having built a solid foundation in community organizing, Tyrone would go on to serve as the Obama for America organizer for Mississippi’s 2nd and 3rd Congressional Districts during President Obama’s 2008 campaign.

Later, as the State Director of Organizing for America in Mississippi, Tyrone organized grassroots and political support for the passage of the Affordable Care Act – also known as Obamacare. Tyrone also served as Deputy Campaign Manager of Johnny DuPree for Governor – the first African-American nominee for governor of a major political party in Mississippi. In November 2008, Tyrone and his wife, Ercilla Dometz-Hendrix, founded a grassroots political consulting firm that continues to serve progressive causes and candidates.

As a Ward 6 representative, Tyrone offers valuable experience recruiting and developing leaders to tackle the challenges facing our communities. He strives to serve the people of our community through various, specialized committees on the City Council. Currently, he serves as the Chair of the Legislative and Rules Committees, Vice Chair for the Planning, Economic Development and Government Operations Committees, and sits on the Budget and Education/ Youth Ad-hoc Committees. Believing in the power of public involvement and providing a voice for everyone, Tyrone has organized several town hall meetings in an effort to engage the local community and its residents on key issues which affect their everyday lives such as Infrastructure, Economic Development, Budget and Finance, and additional city-wide concerns. Councilman Hendrix and his wife, Ercilla, have two children: Farah (10) and Tyrone II (3).
Ms. Lorraine Jackson, ‘82
Music Teacher/ Adjunct Professor
Johnson Elementary School/Jackson State University

Mrs. Lorraine Hudson Jackson is Jackson Public Schools Music Teacher and currently serves as an Adjunct Professor at Jackson State University.

She is a native of Jackson, MS; a graduate of Provine High School. Mrs. Jackson had a deep desire to receive a Bachelor of Music Education Degree from Jackson State University and marched in the famous Sonic Boom of the South band. She is a life member of Tau Beta Sigma and was proud to become a part of the Music Sorority by being one of the members of the first chartered line.

Mrs. Jackson has three Music Education Degrees: Bachelor from Jackson State University; Masters and Specialist degrees in Music Education from Mississippi College. Ms. Jackson received certification on the Master's Level in Exceptional Education from Jackson State University. She has 34 years of service as Music Teacher with Jackson Public Schools. She is known throughout the area for organizing a Performing Arts Department at Johnson Elementary School: choir, steppers, and dance team.

Mrs. Jackson is Minister of Music at Antioch M.B. Church of Jackson and Hinds Madison and Adjoining Counties of the Second Christian Institute. She is married to Rev. Roy L. Jackson who was also a member of the Sonic Boom of the South band. She is proud that her two children (Ramon and Regan) joined in on the music legacy. They are both music majors and performed in the Sonic Boom of the South.

Mrs. Jackson is honored to be able to return to Jackson State and once again be a part of the great Music family.
Dr. Lewis Liddell, ‘67  
Former Associate Professor of Music, Director of Bands and Coordinator of the Instrumental Division  
Jackson State University

Dr. Lewis Liddell, Sr., served as Associate Professor of Music, Director of Bands, and Coordinator of the Instrumental Division at Jackson State University, for 18 years. He earned the Bachelor of Music Education degree from Jackson State University in 1967, a Master of Music Education degree from The University of Louisiana in 1969 and a Doctorate from Mississippi State University in 1977.

Liddell’s teaching career began in 1967 as band director at Wesley Ray High School in Angie, Louisiana. In 1970, Dr. Liddell assumed the band director’s position at his high school alma mater, Brinkley High School in Jackson, Mississippi. After 14 years of teaching and directing award-winning bands in the Jackson Public School District, including directing the national renowned Provine High School band, “the 1982 Sweepstakes Winner and Mid-America National Marching Band Champion (sponsored by Six Flags Over St. Louis),” Dr. Liddell moved to higher education. Dr. Liddell's diverse university teaching and administrative experiences include: Department Chairperson, Division of Fine Arts, Director of Bands and Assistant Professor of Fine Arts, Kentucky State University, Frankfort, Kentucky; Assistant to the President, Affirmative Action Officer, Coordinator of Institutional Research, Murray State University, Murray, Kentucky; Affirmative Action Officer, Winona State University, Winona, Minnesota; and Assistant to the Dean, College of Arts and Science and Associate Professor of Music, North Carolina A&T State University in Greensboro, North Carolina.

Under his leadership, the Jackson State University Marching Band, “The Sonic Boom of the South” was frequently invited to perform at athletic events and to participate in band extravaganzas nationally and internationally. A few of the most notables include: performances for the New York Jets; Houston Oilers; Philadelphia Eagles; New Orleans Saints; Indianapolis Colts; Dallas Mavericks; Memphis Grizzlies; Senior Bowl (1997 & 2004); Honda Battle of Bands (2006, 2009 & 2012); and the 34th NAACP Image Awards, with a special guest performance by “Cedric the Entertainer.” Notwithstanding the many accolades received by the marching band, Dr. Liddell is proudest of the accomplishments of the Symphonic wind ensemble and the concert band, the nucleus and musical force behind the band program.

The recipient of the Capital City Classic, John A. Peoples–Walter Washington Humanitarian Award, 2009; honored by the City Council of Jackson, Mississippi, 2009; recognized and honored by the Fannie Lou Hamer National Institute of Citizenship and Democracy for his participation and contributions to the Civil Rights Movement of the 1960s, Honorary Director of the Grambling World Famous Marching Band, 2007; Honorary Band Member of the Grambling World Famous Marching Band, 2007, inducted in the Grambling State University National Band Hall of Fame, honored by the NCAA Hall of Champions, 2003 to name a few. Dr. Liddell believes that his greatest achievement was the positive influence and encouragement that he provided students. In April 2012, one of his former students Cortez Bryant showed his appreciation by establishing a $500,000 band scholarship endowment in Dr. Liddell’s name. Lewis Liddell is married to Dr. L. Frances P. Liddell, former Interim Chair, and Associate Professor of Public Policy and Administration at Jackson State University. They are the proud parents of four sons, two daughters, one granddaughter, and one grandson. He is a member of Anderson United Methodist Church in Jackson, Mississippi.
“By the grace of God, I am what I am…” (1 Corinthians 15:10) Below are some of the things He has accomplished through me…

While a Journalism and Speech Literature major at Jackson State University, Mannery was encouraged by his mentor, and acclaimed writer Dr. Margaret Walker-Alexander to focus on songwriting. Heeding her counsel, he has gone on to write over 100 songs, recorded by legendary Gospel, R&B and Blues artist. In 2003, he received The Gospel Music Workshop of America Founder’s Award, named in honor of the convention founder, Rev. James Cleveland. He served as Executive Director of the Gospel Division of Malaco/Savoy Music Group for over a decade—overseeing the day-to-day operations of the Division, including promotion, production, artist relations, marketing and administration.

Jerry is the founder of the Mississippi Children’s Choir, and a founding member of the Mississippi Mass Choir, where he served as Executive Director since 1993, and one of its composers and producers. He has booked and managed tours throughout the country and around the world, including Japan, Spain, Italy, South Africa, Greece, Bahamas, France, Portugal and the Canary Islands. He has served on several music industries Board of Directors, including the Gospel Music Hall of Fame, the American Gospel Quartet Convention, and the Mississippi Musicians Hall of Fame. He is a voting member of The Grammy organization NARAS and has served as Second Vice-President of the Memphis Chapter, as well as a 12 year stint on the Grammy’s National Screening Committee for Gospel Music.

In 1968, he was one of the first African-American students to integrate the then all white Florence High School. In 1995, he became the first African-American to retire from the Jackson Fire Department with the rank of Captain. He was named Fireman of the Year in 1991 and 1994. In 1996, he was named National Alumnus of the Year at Lanier High School.

In 2006, he accepted the position of Client Service Director of Owens Morris Communications—a Chicago based full service marketing and communication agency, with corporate and entertainment clients including TV One, and ExxonMobil.

In 2011, he and longtime friend Hoyett Owens founded Faith-Based Communications; a full service marketing and communication agency, dedicated to helping their clients reach and influence the faith based market. As President of Faith-Based Communications, Jerry brings a “Four-Fold” wealthy of experience in Music, Management, Marketing and Ministry. For the last three years they have managed and produced the 15 cities McDonald’s Inspiration Celebration Gospel Tour.

Notwithstanding all of the aforementioned, his crowning moment came in 2000 when he accepted his call to the ministry and received his ordination from More than Conquerors Faith Church, of Birmingham, AL, and North Star M.B. Church of Lake Providence, LA. He and his wife of thirty-five years, Sharon, have two children—Dr. Yanci Olivia Mannery-Baker (Benjamin) and Jerron Eli Mannery (Kassundra). They have three adorable grandchildren—Kennedi, Landon and Ansleigh.
Attorney Joi Owens, ‘09
Managing Attorney and Legislative Liaison
Disability Rights Mississippi

Joi L. Owens is the managing Attorney and Legislative Liaison at Disability Rights Mississippi. Joi is a graduate of Mississippi College School of Law and is admitted to practice law in Federal and State courts. While at Mississippi College school of law, Joi was recognized as the annual law school Awards day and was actively involved in many school/community organizations and competitions.

As the Managing Attorney at Disability Rights Mississippi, Joi oversees the hiring, training, and supervision of team members. Joi oversees all legal processes and services related to the Community Integration Team Unit. Joi has been actively involved in Disability Rights access cases and has worked to help many facilities across the state of Mississippi implement better policies to provide quality services to its residents. In addition, Joi manages a caseload of active individual cases and assigned systems advocacy/litigation projects, which may include community integration issues unrelated to investigations and monitoring. Serves on the agency management team, performs community outreach including public speeches and presentations as requested, maintains active involvement with the Mississippi public interest bar and protection and advocacy systems nationwide, assists with in-service training activities, and coordinates and organizes all legislative and public policy efforts.

Prior to joining the DRMS, Joi was an attorney and the Legislative Strategist at the ACLU of Mississippi. As the Legislative Strategist for the ACLU-MS, Joi developed strategies and implemented the ACLU’s legislative and public policy agenda at the state, city, and county levels, with particular focus on specific priority areas; identified, tracked, and analyzed all legislation before the state legislature that affects civil liberties and civil rights; lobbied members of the legislature, their staff, and the Governor’s office and identified opportunities for bipartisan support on ACLU issues; cultivated relationships with key elected and appointed officials, staff, policy makers, and related governmental bodies and leaders; carried out public education efforts before local government and administrative agencies; and represented the ACLU in meetings of ad hoc legislative coalitions, committees, and before various community groups. Joi assisted with passing legislation that has created transparency in Mississippi’s public School System.

Joi Owens clerked with the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit with Judge Graves. Joi has worked with several nonprofits in the state of Mississippi which include Mississippi Volunteer Lawyers Project, Mississippi Center for Justice, and Mississippi Health Advocacy Program. Joi also worked as a law clerk at the Mississippi Attorney General’s Office in the Public Employee Retirement System and Civil Litigation Division.

Joi received her bachelor’s degree in Speech Communication at JSU where she finished with honors. Joi is a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. Joi is also a proud mother to her son, Legend. Joi has received numerous recognitions and awards for her contributions to public service.
Dr. Ivory Phillips is currently researching and writing in the areas of History and Black Studies.

Phillips was born in August, 1942 in Rosedale, Mississippi. He graduated as Valedictorian from Rosedale Negro High School, now West Bolivar High. Directly, after completing high school, Phillips attended and graduated as Salutatorian from Jackson State University (JSU) with a Bachelor of Science degree in Social Science Education.

In 1968, Phillips earned a Master of Arts degree in Social Science from California State University in Los Angeles, CA. In 1972, Phillips completed his doctorate degree in Social Studies Education from the University of Washington.

Dr. Phillips began his career teaching Social Studies at Nugent Center School and Immaculate Conception High School. He began teaching collegiate level courses in Social Science Education at Jackson State University in 1968 and continued until 2006. While at JSU, Dr. Phillips served as a Professor, Department Chairman, Dean and President of the Faculty Senate. Dr. Phillips retired as Dean Emeritus of for Education.

He also served one term as a member of the Board of Trustees for the Jackson Public School District. Dr. Phillips has written hundreds of articles for the Jackson Advocate and other area newspapers. He has also written several books, including “White Racism and Black Powerlessness,” “Little Peles” and “A Mother for All Seasons.” He co-hosted two weekly radio programs on WMPR. As a community activist, Phillips has served with many groups and organizations, including the Mississippi Coalition on Black Higher Education, Mississippi Alliance of State Employees, Mississippi Immigrants Rights Alliance, Peoples’ Assembly, NAACP, SCLC, and National Coalition of Blacks for Reparations in America, Holy Ghost Catholic Church, and the JSU National Alumni Association, Inc.

Dr. Phillips has received numerous honors and awards, including STAR Teacher, Teacher of the Year, Martin Luther King Drum Major for Justice and Dean Emeritus.

He and his wife Joyce Phillips produced three sons Ivory, Michael and Jonathan. He and Jo Ann raised two daughters, Myrtle and Roschelle and a god daughter, Ashanti, after the death of his first wife.
In 1977, Edward Saint Pe’ began his career in television (TV) at the NBC-Rockefeller Center in New York city as a page and logging clerk in Broadcasting Operations Control.

Saint Pe’ returned home to New Orleans in 1981 to enter local TV and became an on-air meteorologist. In 1985, Saint Pe’ founded WeatherVision in 1985 as a radio service while still working in TV full time.

For over 20 years, Saint Pe’ and other staff have produced satellite and fiber live-shots for all major networks and programs from the WeatherVision Studio. NBC, CNN, FOX, CBS and ABC, have depended on Weather Vision/Jackson Teleport for live-shots for shows ranging from Face The Nation, Meet The Press, Larry King Live, Politics Nation with Al Sharpton and many others.

In 2012, Edward moved WeatherVision into new HD television studios at Jackson State University (JSU). This move was necessary to merge WeatherVision with the existing Meteorology Program at JSU. Currently, Weather Vision serves as the broadcast hub of the new JSU Broadcast Meteorology Program. Saint Pe’s WeatherVision is morphing into new markets today. Weathercasts are digitized and ftp'd over the internet to its client’s video servers these days. The video is in 1080 HD, the highest quality video available today. New markets are emerging like weather for websites and newspapers. With the advance of digital technology new markets are opening that were unheard of just a few years ago. Saint Pe’ considers his full circle return to JSU’s meteorology college as serendipity.

Saint Pe’ presently serves as the department’s first adjunct professor of Broadcast Meteorology. He has a degree from Belhaven University in Communications and is presently working on his Masters of Science in Communications at Jackson State University in order to become a professor in the new program. He plans on continuing with PhD studies at JSU. He is grateful for a chance to give back as an instructor in the new television program.

Today, Saint Pe’ is reinvigorated with a new son and a wonderful wife, along with full tilt ongoing passion for the business he’s spent his adult life in, the business of Television. Working with the students in the meteorology and communications departments at JSU, penetrating new markets and increasing market share for WeatherVision are prime directives for the future.
Dr. Estus Smith, ‘53

*Vice President and Chief Operating Officer Emeritus*

*Jackson State University*

Estus Smith retired from the Kettering Foundation in Dayton, Ohio after serving 18 years as program officer, director of operations, vice president and chief operating officer, and most recently, vice president and chief operating officer emeritus and adviser to the president. He has dedicated over forty years to working in the areas of education and community service, formerly serving as vice president for Academic Affairs from 1973 to 1984, dean of the School of Liberal Studies from 1968 to 1972 and professor of music and assistant band director from 1964 to 1968 at Jackson State University.

Smith served on the board of trustees for KnowledgeWorks Foundation and Alliance for Community Schools, Inc., Cincinnati, OH. He is the former chairman of the board of Trustees for Central State University (2001-2006), and a former member of the board of directors for the Dayton Council on World Affairs, the executive board of the Miami Valley Leadership Academy, the advisory board for the Senior Resource Connection of the Visiting Nurses Association, and the steering committee for the Connection of the Visiting Nurses Association, and the steering committee for the Southwest Educational Development Laboratory’s National Center for Family and Community Connections with Schools. He is a life member of the Jackson State University National Alumni Association, Inc. Dr. Smith holds memberships in Beta Gamma Boule, Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Sigma Pi Phi, and several other national and local organizations. He is a member of St. Christopher’s Episcopal Church of the Ascension.

In 1972, Smith became one of the five founders of the Mississippi Committee for the Humanities and from 1977-82, he served as chairman of the Mississippi Humanities Council Board. On February 13, 2015, Smith was the first recipient to receive the Cora Norman Award given by the Mississippi Humanities Council to honor people who have made significant lifetime contributions to the public humanities in Mississippi.

Smith is listed in the Jackson State University Sports Hall of Fame for both football and basketball. In 1981, he was cited by the Mississippi House for winning a distinguished service award from the National Governors Association and, in 1995, by the National Conference for Community and Justice for his outstanding service to the greater Dayton, Ohio community. In 2002, he received the ten top African American males’ award from Parity 2000 in Dayton.

Smith received B.S., MM and Ph.D. degrees in Music from Jackson State University, Indiana University and the University of Iowa, respectively. He is married to Emma Brooks-Smith, and has one son, Donald Gregory Smith, and one stepson, Thomas St. Clair Williams, MD (LaTonya, PhD).
Dean S. Wiley spent her entire professional career in diverse teaching and administrative positions in higher education. She has had extensive affiliation with both four year research institutions as well as the community colleges. These include: University of Delaware (Newark, Delaware), University of Tennessee @ Chattanooga (Chattanooga, Tennessee) and Chattanooga State Technical Community College (Chattanooga, Tennessee).

In her capacity as Professor of English and Humanities, Wiley taught a wide range of courses in her discipline, including African American Literature, British Literature, Composition, Humanities and Public Speaking. She regularly taught a humanities course she developed, “The Human Experience Through Song: A Study of Culture and Society.” Wiley has participated in diverse arenas as a presenter, and has also partnered with other higher educational entities in professional development activities centered on cultural and societal implications in music.

Administrative experience includes: Dean of a statewide academic satellite program at the University of Delaware, Assistant-to-the-Dean, College of Education, University of Delaware, Department Chair, Chattanooga State and Coordinator and Professor of English as a Second Language program, Chattanooga State. Wiley has been a long time advocate for several educational initiatives and has routinely engaged in projects which support these interests. Among them are: promoting activities which encourage life-long learning, interactive learning experiences for students and activities which encourage learning external the classroom. Wiley has a keen and long term interest in the “global classroom” and international learning and exchange opportunities. She has enjoyed frequent participation in educational trips abroad. Travels have included Africa, Spain, Greece, Austria, Germany, Belgium, Holland, Canada, England, Scotland, France, Switzerland, and Italy. Wiley has been actively affiliated with Jackson State University’s (Jackson, MS) International Program, serving as president and vice president of the international board. In 2013, she received The Chairman’s Service Award for “providing significant services for international activities.”

Wiley received her undergraduate degree in English from Jackson State University (Jackson, Mississippi), a Masters in English from Southern University (Baton Rouge, Louisiana) and a Doctorate in English, with collateral in Higher Education Administration, from the University of Tennessee (Knoxville, Tennessee). Post Doctorate work in Higher Education Administration was done at Bryn Mawr College (Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania). A Mississippi native, Dean Wiley returned to live in Mississippi after an extended absence to pursue her career on the east coast and in the Southeast.

Wiley enjoys affiliation with diverse and meaningful professional, civic and social activities which draw upon broad based experiences, expertise and interests.
October 22, 2015

Dear Alumni and Friends,

On behalf of the College of Public Service at Jackson State University (JSU), I am honored to have this opportunity to welcome you to our annual Notable Alumni Panel discussion for Fall 2015.

We thank you for returning back to your “Dear Ole College Home” and for taking the time to share your past experiences at JSU, along with your professional achievements with our current students. This is an exciting time for Jackson State University and the College of Public Service.

The University’s enrollment continues to increase and CPS has achieved a record enrollment with over 1,600 students. Other achievements for the College include our continued success in faculty teaching, research and service, state-of-the-art infrastructure, smart classrooms, and innovative learning spaces. We are also proud to announce that our School of Health Sciences has been approved to become the first School of Public Health in the State of Mississippi and the hiring of its “Founding Dean”.

Moving forward, the programs that will remain in the College of Public Service include: Social Work, Public Policy and Administration, Urban and Regional Planning, and Urban Studies. Moreover, we are fortunate to have an affiliation with the Mississippi Urban and Research Center (MURC). During the Fall semester, the administrative office of CPS will be relocating to JSU’s new downtown campus at 101 Capitol Street, and we hope you will find time to visit us there.

Great things are happening in the College of Public Service, and we are inviting you to join our success. In addition, we are grateful to you for your support and commitment to the College. If we can assist you in any way, please call on us.

Sincerely,

Ricardo A. Brown
Ricardo A. Brown, Ph.D.
Dean
2015 NOTABLE ALUMNI PANEL: COLLEGE OF PUBLIC SERVICE
JSU STUDENT CENTER - THEATER

Dr. Sam Mozee, Jr., ‘83 | Moderator

PANELISTS

Ms. Stephanie Coleman, ‘08
Equal Business Opportunities Manager
City of Jackson

Dr. Tamara Jackson, ‘97
Director of Program Compliance and Outreach
Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries
and Parks

Mr. Akili Kelly, ‘11
Construction Project Manager
State of Mississippi

Ms. Ashlee D. Theodore Kelly, ‘08
Policy Analyst
Jackson City Council

Dr. Sam Mozee, Jr., ‘83
Associate Director for Research
Mississippi Urban Research Center (MURC)
Jackson State University

Dr. Timothy A. Neyland, Sr., ‘14
Education/MHICM Coordinator; Social Work
Mental Health Supervisor
Jackson Veterans Administration Medical Center

Mr. Roy Thomas, ‘84
Licensed Clinical Social Worker
Stephen & Associates
Stephanie Coleman, ‘04  
*Equal Business Opportunities Manager*  
*City of Jackson*

Stephanie Coleman manages the City of Jackson’s Equal Business Opportunity (EBO) Division, where her focus is to ensure the inclusion of female and minority business enterprises in the City’s procurement process. Prior to joining the City of Jackson, Ms. Coleman served as the Chief Executive Officer of Prolific Solutions Consulting and the President of T & P Joint Venture. While operating in those two capacities, Ms. Coleman provided her clients with collaborative solutions while focusing on the most critical issues and opportunities: strategy, marketing, organization, governmental affairs, operations, change control and program management in a variety of industries.

She has been an advocate for women’s rights by serving as the Interim Executive Director for the Mississippi Commission on the Status of Women. She has also worked as the Senior Consultant with Customer Value Partners of Fairfax, Va., writing policies for the Mississippi Development Authority’s Disaster Recovery Division after Hurricane Katrina.

In collaboration with Jackson State University, Meharry Medical College and the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Ms. Coleman managed the citywide “Buckle Up for Safety” campaign that was responsible for the research of seat belt safety usage in the Jackson Metropolitan Area and its efforts to push for awareness and stronger safety belt usage laws in the State of Mississippi. In 2008, she was presented with an award for her outstanding work and dedication in the City by the Jackson City Council.

Ms. Coleman received a Bachelor’s degree in Criminal Justice in 2004 and a Master’s degree in Public Policy and Administration with an emphasis in State and Local Government in 2008 from Jackson State University. Ms. Coleman is a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated. In her spare time, she enjoys traveling, reading, gardening and spending time with her family. The JSU alumna currently resides in Hinds County.
Dr. Tamara Jackson, ‘97  
*Director of Program Compliance and Outreach  
Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks*

Tamara Jackson, is a Jackson, Mississippi, native. She currently serves as Director of Compliance and Outreach at the Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks (MDWFP). Her passion for diversity has allowed her to work with the Executive Director, Deputy Director and Director of Administrative Services to create the most diverse state natural resources conservation agency in the Southeastern United States. Dr. Jackson is one of the top ranking female employees in the organization. MDWFP is the only organization of its kind to have minorities represented in all top management positions. Jackson began her career with the MDWFP in 1992. She is responsible for ensuring diversity for all MDWFP employees. She has worked in several roles, but her most rewarding has been the Internship Coordinator position in which she works to provide sound mentoring and quality job development skills for college juniors and seniors. Jackson’s motto is “For Our African American Young People, Success is the Only Option.”

Jackson received a Bachelor of Science degree in Criminal Justice from Jackson State University in May 1997. Continuing her education at Jackson State, she received a Masters of Public Policy and Administration in May 2005 and the Doctor of Philosophy in Public Policy and Administration in December 2015. While attending graduate school at Jackson State, she served as President of the Public Policy and Administration Toastmasters and has held several SGA positions.

Her academic achievements include: Dean’s Award for Student Most Likely to Advance the Student Organization, Exemplary Doctoral Scholar award, Pi Alpha Alpha Honor Society, Alpha Epsilon Lambda Honor Society, President’s List Scholar 2008, and Dwight D. Eisenhower Fellow 2012 and 2013.

Jackson is a member of the Minorities in Agriculture, Natural Resources and Related Sciences Committee, Southeastern Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, Wildlife Society, and a former member of the Minorities in Natural Resources Committee. She also received the Outstanding Service Award from the 100 Black Men of Jackson for working to expose underprivileged youth to nature and the outdoors.

Minorities in Agriculture, Natural Resources and Related Sciences  
Dr. Jackson has attended and presented at numerous conferences and workshops throughout the United States and will be presenting her research in Canada in October 2015. She is married to Danny Jackson, and they are the proud leaders of the Abundant Grace M.B. Church in Jackson, MS. Nothing brings her greater joy than serving people through the ministry of the Word.
Mr. Akili Kelly, ‘11
Construction Project Manager
State of Mississippi

A native of Houston, TX, Mr. Kelly is currently employed with the State of Mississippi as a Construction Project Manager. He is responsible for managing all state owned construction projects for the southwest portion of the state.

Mr. Kelly is completing the Architecture Registration Examinations (ARE) in an effort to become a licensed architect in the State of Mississippi. He is also preparing to take the AICP examination with the goal of utilizing his architecture and planning experience to help revive neglected communities.

Mr. Akili Kelly is a 2011 alumnus of the Jackson State University Urban and Regional Planning graduate program.
Ms. Ashlee D. Theodore Kelly, ‘08
Policy Analyst
Jackson City Council

A native of New Orleans, Ashlee Kelly relocated to Jackson, Mississippi, in 2003 to attend Jackson State University.

Since then, she’s obtained a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science, Master of Arts in Urban and Regional Planning and is a PhD student in Public Policy and Administration at Jackson State University.

Ashlee Kelly has been employed with the City of Jackson since 2006 and has worked in many positions within the Department of Public Works and Department of Planning and Development. Most recently, she moved to the Office of the City Clerk to work as a Policy Analyst for City Council.

Kelly is a member of several professional and community organizations which include but are not limited to American Planning Association, American Society for Public Administration, and Women for Progress.
Dr. Sam Mozee, Jr., ‘83  
*Associate Director for Research*  
Mississippi Urban Research Center (MURC)  
Jackson State University

Dr. Sam Mozee, Jr. is currently the Associate Director for Research with the Mississippi Urban Research Center (MURC) at Jackson State University.

In this capacity, he performs urban-related research, evaluation, program development, and community outreach activities. Dr. Mozee received a Bachelor’s of Arts degree in Political Science, Master’s of Public Policy and Administration degree, and a Ph.D. degree in Public Policy and Administration from Jackson State University.

Prior to joining MURC in 2004, Dr. Mozee accumulated over 18 years of public administration experience at the local, state, federal, and non-profit levels. His employment experience includes working with the Governor’s Office of Planning and Policy; Mississippi State Department of Education; Hinds County Board of Supervisors; the Foundation for the MidSouth; the City of Jackson (MS); and the Mississippi Development Authority. His areas of expertise include urban research, developing and implementing community and economic development initiatives, policy analysis, and program development. His current research interests are urban revitalization and employment policy.

Dr. Mozee is a life-long resident of the City of Jackson, Mississippi.
Dr. Timothy A. Neyland, Sr., ‘14  
*Education/MHICM Coordinator;  
Social Work Mental Health Supervisor  
Jackson Veterans Administration Medical Center*

Dr. Timothy Neyland is employed at the Jackson Veterans Administration Medical Center in Jackson, Mississippi, as the Education Coordinator, MHICM Coordinator, and Social Work Mental Health Supervisor. He is also the pastor of Temple Church of Christ (Holiness) USA in Hazlehurst, MS.

Dr. Neyland is quite involved in the community. He is the founder of M.A.N.U.P.™ (Men Associated to Nurture and Uplift Parenthood), a non-profit organization that focuses on addressing the multifaceted aspects of fatherhood for custodial and non-custodial fathers. He is also the Co-Founder—along with his wife, Tracey—of another non-profit: HumbleWay OutReach, an organization that provides Christian-driven services to the needy, such as professional counseling, food pantry services, and resource referrals. Dr. Neyland is also an author of three Christian books: Legacy Lost©; is in the process of editing Confederate Christian©; and in publication, Commandments or Compassion?

Neyland has served his country as a sergeant in the U.S. Army during Operation Desert Storm and is the recipient of the Sergeant Majors Award and the Army Achievement Medal. Most recently, he was one of the 2015 recipients of the WJTV Jefferson Award for outstanding community service.

Neyland earned his Ph.D. in Social Work in 2014 from Jackson State University. He also received his Bachelor of Arts in Psychology and Master of Social Work degrees from Jackson State University.
Mr. Roy Thomas, ‘84  
Licensed Clinical Social Worker  
Stephen & Associates

Roy Thomas recently relocated to Flowood, Mississippi, and was previously a resident of Merrillville, Indiana. He and his wife own and operate Stephen & Associates. Thomas is a licensed clinician social worker, LCSW, for the state of Indiana where he was previously employed as a Marriage & Family, EMDR Therapist, as a field placement supervisor for Indiana University Northwest, and maintained collaboration with Purdue’s Calumet Marriage & Family Therapy Program.

He has practiced as a therapist for institutions, private agencies, and outpatient mental health facilities for over 25 years primarily serving older children, adolescents, adults and families from diverse backgrounds in individual, family, couple and group therapy formats.

Thomas has an extensive career and expertise regarding the clinical aspects of human behavior and treatment. On numerous occasions, he served as a presenter and trainer. Additionally, he worked as an adjunct professor of human behavior at Jackson State University.

Roy received his Bachelor of Social Work degree from Jackson State University in 1984 and graduated Magna Cum Laude. In 1985, he was awarded a scholarship to attend The Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C., where he completed an honors program in 1986, with a concentration in Marriage & Family Therapy. Thomas has also completed postgraduate studies at Jackson State University and at the Reformed Theological Seminary.
October 22, 2015

Dear Alumni,

As the Founding Dean of the newly established School of Public Health at Jackson State University, I am honored to have the opportunity to welcome you to our annual Notable Alumni Panel. The accredited programs of Communicative Disorders, Healthcare Administration, and Public Health, along with the research initiatives of the Center for Health Disparities and the Jackson Heart Study now constitute the School of Public Health.

The mission of the school is to prepare public health leaders, for Mississippi and beyond, to work collaboratively in the areas of teaching, research and service for the improvement of public health, promotion of well-being among populations and the prevention and elimination of health disparities and communicative disorders. The school, which currently consists of over 650 students and 40 faculty members, (including part-time and adjunct) is embarking on a plan to recruit additional faculty and administrative personnel. The expectation is that the student body of the school will grow by 10 percent each year.

As the faculty, staff and students move towards building an accredited School of Public Health, I hope you, the alumni, will support and join this effort by responding to requests for information, organizing events, giving departmental and school-wide presentations, contributing to fundraising efforts, joining established taskforces, and serving as advocates for the school and for the field of public health.

As the Founding Dean, I appreciate your current support and I look forward to personally connecting with you during my visits to the nine public health districts in Mississippi, and as I travel to conferences and meetings throughout the country.

Sincerely,

Dorothy Browne
PANELISTS
Ms. Kristie Croom, ‘04
Speech Language Pathologist

Ms. Cassandra Dove, ‘06
Chronic Disease Director
Mississippi State Department of Health

Dr. Sandra Hayes, ’05
Executive Director for the Tougaloo College
Owens Health and Wellness Center
Interim Director for the Tougaloo College
Institute for Bio Health and Informatics

Ms. Getty Israel, ‘83
Public Health Practitioner
Pathway To Wellness, LLC

Ms. Daphne McDonald, ’91
Founder of Speaking Life Incorporated
DBA, Speaking Life Healthcare

Ms. Tomikia N. Smith-Garrette, ‘12
CEO – Precision Care Service of MS, LLC
Kristie Croom ‘04  
*Speech Language Pathologist*  
Little Rock School District

Kristie Croom, a native of Little Rock, Arkansas, is a proud 2004 graduate of Jackson State University. She graduated from the historic Little Rock Central High School. She attended Philander Smith College and ultimately graduated with a Bachelor’s of Science degree from the University of Arkansas at Little Rock. Initially, Kristie thought she wanted to be an elementary teacher, but was led to the field of Speech Pathology. She was able to pursue her passion of working with children by graduating from Jackson State University with a Master’s of Science in Communication Disorders. Presently, Kristie is a licensed Speech-language Pathologist in the Little Rock School District. In addition, she is employed as a clinical adjunct instructor of graduate level speech pathology students at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock.

Kristie holds membership in the American Speech-language Hearing Association. In 2013, she was voted by her colleagues as “Teacher of the Year” in the elementary school. Currently, Kristie is the president of the Jackson State University Little Rock Metro Alumni Chapter and is an active member of Alpha Kappa Alpha, Sorority, Inc. Her passion is to educate our youth and rehabilitate communication skills. In addition, Kristie is a huge advocate for higher education, especially if it is for recruitment to Jackson State University.
Cassandra Dove is the Chronic Disease Director for the Mississippi State Department of Health.

She received her Master’s of Public Health in Epidemiology from Jackson State University in 2006 and an undergraduate degree from the University of Southern Mississippi in Industrial Engineering Technology in 1991. Ms. Dove has been in public health for over 15 years, working on programs to prevent and control child abuse, injuries, infectious diseases, and chronic diseases such as diabetes, heart disease, stroke, and cancer. In her current role, Ms. Dove is responsible for leading community, regional, and statewide efforts to combat chronic disease, including the Delta Health Collaborative, a special project that engages community leaders, churches, healthcare providers, and government officials at the local level to improve the overall health of the Mississippi Delta region.

Among Ms. Dove’s community service activities, she has served as Big Sister Mentor, a member of the 100 Black Women of Jackson; she is on the Board of Mississippi MoToSteps and is an active volunteer for the American Red Cross. Ms. Dove is from Raleigh, MS and now resides in Jackson, MS.
Dr. Hayes’ educational background is both varied and research oriented. Her undergraduate work includes a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology from Tougaloo College and a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Mississippi in Clinical Laboratory Sciences. Her graduate studies have culminated in a Master of Combined Science degree in Biology from Mississippi College, a Master of Public Health in Epidemiology from Jackson State University and a Doctor of Public Health in Epidemiology from Jackson State University.

Dr. Hayes’ research interests are reflected in various publications that she has co-authored. These publications explore health disparities related to the development of infectious and chronic diseases, such as HIV/AIDS, TB, diabetes, and asthma.

Today, Dr. Hayes serves as the Executive Director for the Tougaloo College Owens Health and Wellness Center and is Interim Director for the Tougaloo College Institute for Bio Health and Informatics. She serves as the Principal Investigator for 3 federally funded grants and manages over 5 million dollars in grant funding each year. Recently, Dr. Hayes was recognized in the Congressional Record by Congressman Bennie G. Thompson for her work in reducing and eliminating health disparities.
Ms. Getty Israel, ‘83
Public Health Practitioner
Pathway To Wellness, LLC

Getty Israel is a public health expert who specializes in chronic disease prevention and wellness and maternal and child health. She holds a Master of Public Health degree and extensive experience in public health education, promotion, and policy. She is the author of When Poor Was Healthy.

Currently, she works as the Mississippi regional director of the Clinton Health Matters Initiative, a public health program within the Clinton Foundation.

Getty is a passionate role model for healthy living, also known as lifestyle medicine. She credits a healthy lifestyle (eating, physical activity, and tobacco and alcohol abstinence) with her family’s good health despite having been poor and uninsured.

“The most powerful therapy on the face of the Earth is not drug medications, dietary supplements, or invasive medical procedures; rather, it is a healthy lifestyle,” Getty Israel, MPH
Daphne M. McDonald, ‘91
Founder of Speaking Life Incorporated
DBA, Speaking Life Healthcare

Daphne M. McDonald is a native of Bruce, Mississippi and a proud member of the Jackson State University Class of 1991. She obtained a degree in Communicative Disorders in what was then the Department of Speech and Dramatic Arts. This degree was followed with a Masters in Communicative Disorders from the University of Mississippi in 1993. Upon completion of her Masters, she obtained of Certificate of Clinical Competence as a Speech-Language Pathologist. Her knowledge and skill are only exceeded by her care and concern for the growth and well being of her clients. Daphne's knowledge has been augmented by her pursuit of several certifications that include:

- Certification by the Institute of Language & Phonology (PESL)
- Certification in Neuromuscular Electrical Stimulation
- Certified Leader by the Hanen Program for Parents

Daphne now boasts an extensive resume as a Speech-Language Pathologist and Entrepreneur. She is a member of the American Speech Language and Hearing Association and the National Black Association for Speech Language and Hearing (NBASLH). She is the Chairman of the Steering Committee chartered with the establishment of a Mid-South Chapter of NBASLH. She is the Vice President of Education of the A-OK Toastmasters of Memphis and a participant in the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) 2015 Emerging Leaders Initiative.

After being employed as a contract therapist for several years, she was driven to pursue her dream of managing her own speech practice. With much prayer and the support of her husband Thomas (JSU c/o 1992 – Computer Science), she founded Speaking Life Incorporated in July 2007. Speaking Life Incorporated, DBA, Speaking Life Healthcare, is a staffing solution company providing contract therapy services to Shelby County Schools (SCS), the largest public school district in Tennessee and the 22nd largest public school district in the nation. Clients also include several Charter Schools and the Achievement School District. Speaking Life also partners with Well Child, the largest school health services provider in the state of Tennessee. Speaking Life strives to serve God, serve our clients and serve the community. The company emphasizes “Communication…for your best life.” By improving communication skills Speaking Life adds value to the lives of their clients and families.

Daphne also seeks to encourage her employees to grow and follow their dreams and promises and she did.

Daphne is married to Thomas, her supportive and loving husband. They are the proud parents of Tyler and Maya and a grandson, William. Daphne attributes her accomplishments and work ethic to her parents, Archie and Annie Talford. Daphne is an active member of her local church, Greater Community Temple Church of God in Christ.
Ms. Tomikia Smith Garrette, ‘12  
CEO/President  
Precision Care Services of MS, LLC

Ms. Tomikia Smith Garrette received her Bachelor of Science degree in Healthcare Administration at Jackson State University in 2012. She is currently pursuing a Master of Public Policy and Administration degree at JSU.

Mrs. Smith Garrette is the proud owner and operator of Precision Care Services of MS, LLC. Precision Care Service, LLC. is a health care service that offers services to disabled and elderly adults, and young adults ages 19 and older. They provide services in the comfort of the client’s homes, hospital rooms, retirement homes or wherever companionship or assistance with the activities of daily living (ADL’s) is needed. Precision Care Services of MS, LLC. provides services for clients throughout the state of Mississippi.

Mrs. Smith Garrette is married to Mr. Zion Garrette, Jr. She is the proud parent of For’Gary Smith, Keenen Smith, Sebastian Smith and Ja’Quala Smith. Garrette hobbies include traveling abroad the world and shopping.
Jackson State University
Notable Alumni Panel Planning Committee

Ms. Tammy Terrell-Brooks, Director
Alumni & Constituency Relations

Ms. LaToya Moore, Assistant Director
Alumni & Constituency Relations

Ms. Lori Swanier, Director
Career Management and Placement Center
College of Business

Dr. Steven Smith, Major Gifts Director
College of Business

Ms. Constance Lawson, Director of Development
College of Liberal Arts

Ms. Angela Getter, Director of Development
College of Science, Engineering and Technology

Ms. Aundria Range, Recruiter/Publicist
College of Public Service School of Public Health

Ms. Felicia Kent, Director of Development
College of Education and Human Development