

OTHA BURTON, JR.
Resume and Curriculum Vitae
1728 Tanglewood Court
Jackson, MS 39213
(601) 981-2971

PROFESSIONAL PERSPECTIVE

Respect for and commitment to public service; considerable experience in executive leadership in various size organizations; expertise in local government administration and urban planning; experience in teaching public policy and administration at the graduate school level; research and ongoing study in intergovernmental relations, community and economic development, and urban and regional public management issues; extensive and varied community service involvement in projects and programs that are people related; and the ability to teach and motivate students in higher education toward accepting challenges and responsibilities in public management.

EDUCATION AND SIGNIFICANT TRAINING

Mississippi State University; Mississippi State, MS
Ph.D. Public Administration, 1997.

Jackson State University; Jackson, MS
M.A.T. Political Science Concentration, 1974.

Jackson State University; Jackson, MS
B.A. History, Minor in Political Science, 1972.

Other educational/training credentials:

- Dwight D. Eisenhower Grants for Research Fellow, Federal Highway Administration, Washington, D.C., 1994.
- Mississippi Area HUD Office, & Mississippi Research and Development Center Certificate as Community Development Specialist I, 1981.
- International City Managers Association Certificate in Urban Planning, 1977.
- Georgia Institute of Technology Certificate in Urban Planning, Atlanta, Georgia, 1978.
- Certificate for Directed Research in Black Studies, Jackson State University, 1973.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Associate Professor, Associate Dean, School of Policy and Planning, and Chair, Department of Urban and Regional Planning, Jackson State University: July 2006 – Present, Jackson MS.

Associate Professor with appointments to both the Department of Urban and Regional Planning and the Department of Public Policy and Administration. Also appointed as the Chair of the Department of Urban and Regional Planning. In the capacity as the Associate Dean, the appointment responsibilities involve oversight of one of the three

Schools in the College of Public Service. The Associate Dean of the School of Policy and Planning manages the graduate degree programs in the Department of Urban and Regional Planning and the Department of Public Policy and Administration, the undergraduate degree program in Urban Studies, and two program units: the Mississippi Center for Technology Transfer, and the Center for Urban Planning and Policy Assessment. As Department Chair, directed the accreditation effort of the Master of Urban and Regional Planning Degree Program from 2007 to 2009. Program accreditation was granted by the Planning Accreditation Board, effective January 2010.

Interim Chair, Department of Urban and Regional Planning, Jackson State University: August 2005-Present, Jackson, MS.

Appointed to this position by the President of the University and the Dean of the College of Public Service to manage the Department which offered the Ph.D. and Master's Degrees in Urban and Regional Planning. The Department also offered an undergraduate degree in Urban Studies.

Chief Administrative Officer, City of Jackson: 1998-2005, Jackson, MS.

Appointed by the Mayor in June, 1998 as the City's first Chief Administrative Officer. Duties involved management of the day-to-day affairs of city government. This included providing public management expertise to the Mayor in administering the City's overall goals, policies, and procedures through the executive branch departments and municipal services, and assisting the Mayor in a liaison capacity with executive-legislative policy matters involving the City Council, and with intergovernmental matters involving other political jurisdictions.

Director, Department of Administration, City of Jackson: 1998-2000, Jackson, MS.

Appointed by the Mayor in January, 1998 as one of eight cabinet directors. A total of nine divisions comprised the department and included functions involving: finance and management, purchasing, information systems, public safety communications center, and telecommunications.

Guest Lecturer, European Humanities University: November 2000, Minsk, Belarus.

Invited to lecture on "Resource Development and Fund Raising for Non-Governmental Organizations in Belarus." This effort was sponsored through the U.S. State Department's funded three-year partnership between the Mississippi Consortium for International Development/Jackson State University and the European Humanities University.

Guest Lecturer, Public Administration Program, Department of Political Science, Mississippi State University: Spring 1998, Mississippi State, MS.

Invited as adjunct guest lecturer to teach the Spring Semester. The Masters program course was entitled, "Program Evaluation."

Assistant Professor of Public Policy and Administration, and Director of the Mississippi Center for Technology Transfer: 1990 - 1997 (Granted professional leave of absence in 1998, but function as an Adjunct Professor), Jackson State

University, Jackson, MS.

Areas of specialization involved Community and Economic Development, State and Local Government, and General Management in the Department of Public Policy and Administration. As Director of the Technology Center, responsibility involves managing one of the 57 local technical assistance program centers established by the Federal Highway Administration in each state, Puerto Rico, and Indian Country to assist state and local units of government in the transportation industry.

Director, Department of Human and Cultural Services, City of Jackson: 1986 -1990, Jackson, MS.

Appointed by the Mayor, and confirmed by the City Council as one of four cabinet level administrative directors under the Mayor.

Deputy Director, Department of Administration, City of Jackson: 1985-1986, Jackson, MS.

Appointed by the Mayor to serve as Deputy Director to this department to help oversee several major divisions that included City Planning, Development Assistance, Finance and Budgeting, Purchasing, and Personnel. Citizens voted a change to the Strong Mayor-Council form of government in 1985.

Manager, Office of Development Assistance, City of Jackson: 1983-1985, Jackson, MS.

Responsible for community and economic development, grant procurement, housing assistance coordination, and public transit contract management.

Senior Planner, City Planning Department, City of Jackson: 1982 – 1983, Jackson, MS. Appointed to create and supervise the Development Assistance Division of the Department.

Assistant Coordinator, City Federal Programs Office, City of Jackson: 1979 -1982, Jackson, MS.

Responsibilities included assisting the Manager with policy and program coordination, grant writing, research and analysis, and serving as a liaison with neighborhood and community organizations.

Associate Planner, City Planning Department, City of Jackson: 1976 -1979, Jackson, MS.

Served as one of four Associate Planners directly accountable to the Planning Director. Duties included research and plan formulation of neighborhood comprehensive studies, census data analysis, and micro area studies.

Other job experiences: Assistant Planner, and Research and Statistical Assistant, City Planning Department, City of Jackson, 1974 – 1976, Jackson, MS.

AFFILIATIONS

Advisory Board, Institute for Multimodal Transportation, JSU, 2007

Board Member, Habitat for Humanity/Metro Jackson, Inc.: 2005
 Board Member, Mississippi Jazz Foundation: 2005 - present
 VAST Program Mentor, Jackson Public Schools; 2000
 American Planning Association
 American Society for Public Administration
 President, MS Chapter, American Society for Public Administration; 1995-96
 Executive Council, Southeastern Conference Of Public Administration; 1995-97
 John C. Stennis State Executive Development Institute Advisory Board Member
 MS Governor Bill Allain's appointee to statewide Constitution Committee; 1986
 West Jackson Community Development Corporation Board Member
 Farish Street YMCA Board of Directors and Chairperson; Mid-1980's
 Association for the Preservation of Smith Robertson Museum Board Member; 1980's
 Arts Alliance of Jackson-Hinds County Board Member; Mid-1980's
 Greater Jackson Youth Service Corps Board Member; 1990-1996
 Pearl Street AME Church; Steward, Former Cub Scout Pact Asst. Leader
 Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity; Since 1969
 Boyd Elementary School PTA Co-President; 1988-89
 Jackson Neighborhood Housing Services Board Member, and Vice-President; 1980's

HONORS & AWARDS

2009 Selected to Chair Jackson's Mayor-Elect Eco. & Planning Transition Committee
 2009 Appointed by Jackson Mayor and City Council to the Board of Directors, Central
 Mississippi Planning and Development District
 2005 Selected, 50 Most Influential African Americans in MS. www.blackmississippi.com
 2003 The Ralph J. Bunche Award, for Support of International Programs, JSU
 2000 Appointed by JSU President to the University Blue Ribbon Commission
 1999 Local Government Administrator of the Year, Mississippi Chapter ASPA
 1997 Phi Alpha Alpha National Honor Society for Public Affairs and Adm., MSU
 1994 Dwight D. Eisenhower Grants for Research Fellowship
 1995-96 Who's Who in the South and Southwest, Marquis Who's Who
 1992-95 Doctoral Fellowship Award, MS Inst. of Higher Learning, to Miss. State Univ.
 1981 Outstanding Young Man of America
 1971 Alpha Phi Alpha undergraduate chapter, Man of the Year
 1968-1972 Academic Scholarship, JSU

PUBLICATIONS, RESEARCH REPORTS, & SCHOLARLY PRESENTATIONS

Publications

- Chapter entitled "Public Service in America's Urban Areas: Why the Bar in Perception and Practice Remains Higher for African American Public Managers," by Otha Burton, Jr. and Mfanya Donald Tryman. In Diversity and Public Administration: Theory, Issues, and Perspectives, Revised Edition, Mitchell F. Rice, editor (M.E. Sharpe, 2004).
- 2002 Article entitled "The Marriage of TANF and WIA: Are Mississippi's Needy Families Finding Real Employment." In Journal of Public Management & Social Policy, Volume Eight, No. One, Summer 2002.
- 2002 Contributor of mini biographies in The Malcolm X Encyclopedia, Robert L.

- Jenkins, editor, Myfanya Donald Tryman, co-editor, (Greenwood Press, 2002).
- 1998 Article entitled “Stabilizing Financial Commitments Among Competing Local Units of Government.” In Journal Of Public Affairs And Issues, Volume I, Fall 1998.
 - 1996 Chapter entitled “African American Public Managers: Challenges Beyond Diversity Management Representation in Urban Bureaucracies,” by Otha Burton, Jr. and Myfanya Donald Tryman. In Diversity and Public Organizations, Mitchell F. Rice, editor, (Kendall/Hunt Publishing Co., 1996).
 - 1979 Book review of Marguerite Ross, and James A. Hefner Public Policy for the Black Community. In The Journal of Negro History (1979).

Published Research, Monographs, and Reports

- 2008 Report A Comprehensive Study of the Impact of State and Other Tax Exempt Properties on Local Government Operations in the City of Jackson and Hinds County, Center for Urban Planning and Policy Assessment, Jackson State University. Awarded \$16,000 contract with Downtown Jackson Partners, Inc. and funded by the City of Jackson, Hinds County, and private investors. Principal Investigator: Dr. Otha Burton. Associates; Dr. Mukesh Kumar, Dr. Moe Chowdhury, Mr. Carl Allen, Mr. Chuck Patrick. Production assistance from Mrs. Christine Nielsen.
- 2007 Report/Grant Phase I Local Economic Develop Through Heritage Tourism, Center for Urban Planning and Policy Assessment. Awarded \$225,410 contract with the Mississippi Development Authority. Principal Investigator: Dr. Otha Burton. Co-Project Directors; Dr. Joan Wesley and Mr. David Deardorff.
- 2007 Field Research Associate and contributor to the multi-year research effort on the impacts of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, conducted by the Nelson A. Rockefeller Institute of Government and the Public Affairs Research Council of Louisiana, with major funding provided by the Ford Foundation. The study is entitled GulfGov Reports: “Response, Recovery, and the Role of the Nonprofit Community in the Two Years Since Katrina and Rita.”
- 2007 Report Preliminary Statewide Assessment of Public and Specialized Transportation Services and Service Areas in Mississippi, Center for Urban Planning and Policy Assessment, Jackson State University. Awarded \$75,000 contract with the Mississippi Department of Transportation, Public Transit Division. Principal Investigator: Dr. Otha Burton, Jr. Associates: Dr. Mukesh Kumar and Dr. Johnny Gilleylen. Production assistance from Mrs. Christine Nielsen.
- 2007 Report Community Reports (Community and Economic Development Technical Assistance to Nine Communities), Center for Urban Planning and Policy Assessment, and the Office of Economic Development and Local Government Assistance, Jackson State University. Awarded \$250,000 contract with the Mississippi Development Authority. Co-Principal Investigators: Dr. Otha Burton, Jr. and Dr. Roy DeBerry, with assistance from Dr. Kimberly Hilliard, Carrielyn Acey, Colandra Jones, Christy Taylor, and Christine Nielsen.
- 2006 Field Research Associate and contributor to the multi-year research effort on the impacts of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, conducted by the Nelson A.

Rockefeller Institute of Government and the Public Affairs Research Council of Louisiana, with major funding provided by the Ford Foundation. The initial national report was released in New Orleans, and entitled GulfGov Reports: One Year Later, “First Look at the Recovery, Role, and Capacity of States and Localities Damaged by the 2005 Katrina and Rita Hurricanes.” August 22, 2006.

- 1998 Report Self-Evaluation and Strategic Plan 1998-2002, Department of Administration, City of Jackson, Jackson, MS.
- 1997 Dissertation Elastic Federalism: National Transportation Policies That Incorporate Tribal Governments As America’s Fourth Level Of Government, Mississippi State University.
- 1996 Report Comparative Assessment of Municipal Transportation Needs, Services, and Funding Mechanisms, by Otha Burton, and L. Frances Liddell. For the Mississippi Municipal Association.
- 1996 Study Strategic Plan (1997-2002), for the Mississippi Center for Technology Transfer, Jackson State University, by Otha Burton. For the Mississippi Center for Technology Transfer, Jackson State University.
- 1995 Report Minority Institutions of Higher Learning, Assessment of Highway Capacity, Phase I – Schools of Engineering with Frances Liddell for the Federal Highway Administration, Office of Technology Applications Program, Washington, D.C.
- 1995 Report Minority Institutions of Higher Learning, Highway Research Capabilities, Phase II Report – General Research and Technology Assessment with Frances Liddell for the Federal Highway Administration, Office of Technology Applications Program, Washington, D.C.
- 1995 Report Training Plan for Section 18 and Section 16 Personnel, by Janet Crawford (principal consultant) and Otha Burton. For the Mississippi Public Transit Association.
- 1995 Monograph An Intergovernmental Relations Consultation and Mitigation Systems Theory Model Addressing Indian Tribal Governments Transportation Issues. As a Dwight D. Eisenhower Research Fellow for the Federal Highway Administration, Washington, D.C.
- 1995 Report Metro-Area Defense Related Industry Data Base: Hinds, Rankin, and Madison Counties, funded by the Southern Technology Application Center/Regional Technology Transfer Center.
- 1992 Study The Strategic Development Plan, A Ten Year Policy Document 1992-2002. For the West Jackson Community Development Corporation.
- 1992 Report A Manual on How To Design and Implement the Local Initiative Network. A technical assistance project in the Mississippi Delta for the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Washington, D.C.
- 1985 Study, Jackson Mall Area Economic Action Plan. Study recommending designation as an urban renewal and economic development area in the City of Jackson, MS.

Scholarly Presentations

- October 2008, Mississippi American Planning Association and the Mississippi American Society of Landscape Architects Annual Conference, Housing

Colloquium & Workshop; Jackson, Mississippi; topic “Metro Jackson Habitat for Humanity in the 21st Century: Firm to Its Mission, Transparent in Its Activities, Better Articulating Its Role to the Global Community, and Engaging and Building New and Lasting Partnerships that Provide Homes and Strengthen Families.”

- February 2005, national conference Key Note Speaker, Conference of Minority Public Administrators (COMPA), Corpus Christi, Texas; topic “Administering A Southern City Under Black Mayoral Leadership: Are the Challenges, Expectations, and Service Outcomes Any Different?”
- August 2003, paper presentation entitled “Case Study of an American Workforce Employment Initiative at the Local Community Level, and Its Implication for Belarusian State and NGO Coordination,” given at the Civic Participation and Social Development Conference, European Humanities University, Minsk, Belarus.
- February 2002, Conference of Minority Public Administrators (COMPA) Annual Conference Local Co-Host Chair, and Panel Moderator of panel “What is Needed of Mississippi’s Leaders in the 21st Century?” Jackson, MS.
- October 2001, panel discussion entitled “The New Minority Administration in Jackson: Changing Demographics, High Expectations, Challenges to Improve Public Confidence,” on the “Ethical Issues in Universities and Municipalities” panel given at the Southeastern Conference of Public Administration, Baton Rouge, LA.
- October 1999, presentation entitled “The Effective Public Servant in a Transparent Society” given at the 15th Annual Conference of the Mississippi Association of Governmental Purchasing and Property Agents, Tunica County, MS.
- January 1999, panel presentation on “Initial Challenges of Switching to Performance Based Budgeting: A Case Study of Jackson, Mississippi,” given at the Southeastern Conference of Public Administration, Pensacola, FL.
- February 1998, panel discussion “Executive Public Officials Forum” given at the opening general session of the Conference of Minority Public Administrators, Greenville, SC.
- September 1997, paper “Elastic Federalism,” given at the Southeastern Conference of Public Administration, Knoxville, TN.
- March 1997, panel presentation on “Networking With The Client-The Special Case Of Small Governments,” given at the Southern Consortium of University Public Service Organizations’ Annual Conference, Biloxi, MS.
- November 1996, panel chair “Small Town Community and Economic Development,” at the Mississippi Municipal Association’s Conference On The Future Of The Small Town, Jackson, MS.
- October 1996, paper “Incremental Appropriations As a Means of Stabilizing Commitments Among Competing Local Units of Government,” given at the Southeastern Conference of Public Administration, Miami, FL.
- April 1995, panel chair and presenter on “Challenges for Intergovernmental Management in the 1990’s for Subnational Units of Governments,” given at the MS Conference Meeting of the American Society for Public Administration, Vicksburg, MS.

- February 1995, panel moderator on “Technology Information Revolution,” for the White House Conference on Small Business, Regional Site, Jackson, MS.
- October 1994, panel presentation on “Affirmative Action in a Conservative Environment,” given at the Southeastern Conference of Public Administration, Lexington, KY.
- April 1994, paper “The Ecology of Urban America: Public Policy Issues of Mobility and Diversity Versus Stability and Balance,” given at the MS Conference Meeting of the American Society for Public Adm., Biloxi, MS.
- March 1994, paper “Causal Relationships of Economic Inequality on the Socialization of Juvenile Crime in Mississippi Metropolitan and Small Communities,” given at the Mississippi and Louisiana Political Science Association Meeting, Long Beach, MS.
- July 1991, paper “Strategies for Survival,” given at the Minority Male Conference, sponsored by the Office of Minority Health, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and the Public Policy and Administration Program at Jackson State University, Jackson, MS.

TEACHING

Areas: Public Administration

Urban and Regional Planning

Urban Studies

- Public Administration (Graduate Level)
 - Local Government Administration
 - Intergovernmental Relations
 - Community and Economic Development
 - Diversity Issues in Public Management
- Urban and Regional Planning (Graduate Level)
 - Community Development
 - Economic Development
 - Growth Management
- Urban Studies (Undergraduate Level)
 - Internship
 - Directed Research

Courses

- Public Administration
 - Principles of Public Administration
 - Program Evaluation
 - Intergovernmental Relations
 - Problems in County and Local Government Administration
 - Seminar in State Politics
 - Program Development and Operation
 - Seminar in Community and Economic Development
 - City Planning and the Political Process
 - Urban Management and Urban Services
 - Black Perspectives in Public Administration

- Urban and Regional Planning
 - Citizen Participation
 - Growth Management
 - Economic Development Planning
 - Internship
- Urban Studies
 - Directed Research
 - Internship