

JACKSON STATE UNIVERSITY

# EDUCATION and HUMAN DEVELOPMENT MAGAZINE




EDUCATING | ENGAGING | EMPOWERING

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VOLUME ONE

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The College of Education is the oldest and largest college on the campus of Jackson State University. In its inception in 1877, it was designed to educate ministers and teachers. Today, the College of Education and Human Development has a population of 2,460 students seeking initial and advanced degrees. The college has been accredited by several accrediting bodies including the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education now the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP), the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational programs, and the Council on Rehabilitation Education. The accrediting process requires that our licensure programs undergo a rigorous specialized professional association process. This supports the annual accreditation through the Mississippi Department of Education. The faculty ranks very high in teaching, advising, research, and grantsmanship and operates from three divisions: Administrative Leadership, Instructional Leadership, and Lifelong Learning. Collectively, these programs offer three degrees at the doctoral level, a specialist in education with six concentrations, a masters in 12 areas, and a bachelors in ten content areas.

The College of Education remains active in the community. From Pre-K to 20, we seek ways of engaging our clientele through literacy, team building, and market availability. These efforts are achieved through the Early Childhood Center, Freedom School, Kids Kollege, School of Lifelong Learning, and the Mississippi Learning Institute. Each year we also collaborate to sponsor the Annual Breast Cancer Awareness, Urban Education and Ruth Searcy Literacy conferences.

The College of Education and Human Development has experienced collaborative growth. Jackson State University and Jackson Public Schools and teamed up to transition Blackburn Middle School into Mississippi's first Laboratory School. The college has a major presence at the Madison site of Jackson State University and collaborates with Holmes Community College to offer classes that will lead to a degree in Elementary Education at the Ridgeland site. We continue to extend services throughout the state with our online Early Childhood program. We are excited about our "Call Me MISTER Program." This is a unique collaboration with Clemson University where we matriculate and place young African-American males in elementary schools that are in challenged areas. In addition, we have the "Beyond the Bricks" program where we work with high school students on education and media. This exciting program offers the power of the camera to students to build self-esteem and plan for the future.

Our collaborations involve internal and external partners and we are pleased to put forth JSUTEACH, located in the Center for Teacher Quality. This endeavor is an effort for science, technology, engineering, mathematics and liberal arts students to matriculate in their fields of study while receiving their diplomas and teaching certifications.

We continue to challenge minds and change lives for students in the state, nationally, and internationally. Join us!

**Jackson State University**  
**Education and**  
**Human**  
**Development**

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Volume 1

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# *Message from the Dean*

Welcome to the first annual edition of *Education and Human Development Magazine* published by Jackson State University's College of Education and Human Development (CEHD). The purpose of this magazine is to provide an inside look at the accomplishments and activities of the CEHD students, faculty, and staff. The college, along with the university, had its origin in 1877. We became fully accredited in 1972 by the National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education.

Our ongoing mission is to educate teachers, school leaders, counselors, and other school-related personnel with the latest in technology and best practices. We have been able to continuously achieve this mission with an outstanding and dedicated faculty and staff. The CEHD offers many degrees at the Bachelors, Masters, and Specialist levels along with three Doctoral programs. We aspire to be one of the top education programs in the country. As responsive educators with adaptive expertise, we provide exceptional leadership in research and professional practice that impact the lives of students from prekindergarten to lifelong learning.

You are invited to join us and we will forge ahead together.



Daniel Watkins, Dean







## *MLI...when educating differently requires a different kind of partnership*

by Amy Berry

The mission of the Mississippi Learning Institute (MLI) is to serve as a conduit to create a platform for systemic change that will engage, educate, empower, and motivate communities to support skill building and partnerships. MLI seeks to build capacity among educators and families, and civic and social organizations which will collectively create a statewide network of high performing schools and engaging communities to accelerate and motivate males of color. Since its inception in 2001, MLI has worked as a conduit for positive change in the multi-layered educational arena. As an agent of change, it created a distinctive link or consortium among institutions for pre-kindergarten through higher education, successfully collaborating with community stakeholders to create a model for program improvements through professional development and classroom management using literacy as the undeniable focus. In allegiance with the following organizations, it served as the groundbreaking professional development model for literacy within the Jackson Public School District with Jackson State University, the Mississippi Department of Education, the Barksdale Reading Institute, and the U.S. Department of Education. Participating Jackson Public Schools, called academy schools, served as professional development schools and safe havens for students needing particular academic attention and teachers seeking efficacy to impact student learning.

Currently, MLI is realizing and re-establishing its preeminent role as the mechanism for positive change and has accepted three major drivers as the premise for its 2013 theory of change. The drivers are: the role of school leaders; university-based cultures of innovation and collaboration; and, advancing sustainable change and new narratives for boys of color. MLI recognizes the need and will pursue these theories of change on both the systemic and programmatic levels with the intent of building massive urgency, new infrastructure, and capacity in Mississippi. MLI plans to meet these accomplishments by positively impacting school leadership, touching the various components within the communities to build systems of support for the underserved and increasing community engagement. The organization was organized and continues to operate using funding from local, state, and national foundations, educational agencies, civic and social organizations, and other financial donors. Currently, the W.K. Kellogg Foundation supports the work of the Mississippi Learning Institute.

Amy Berry and  
Dr. Steve Perry,  
Capital  
Preparatory  
Magnet School in  
Hartford, Conn.





# **Chi Sigma Iota International Counseling Honor Society Beta Omicron Chapter Department of School, Community and Rehabilitation Counseling**

**by Dr. Dion F. Porter**

Chi Sigma Iota is an International Counseling Honor Society for all counseling majors within the Department of School, Community and Rehabilitation Counseling at Jackson State University. The advisor of the Beta Omicron Chapter is Dr. Dion Porter and the Assistant Advisor is Dr. Regina Fults-McMurtery. The Beta Omicron Chapter of CSI has over 280 members since its inception in the fall of 2003.

The qualifications for a student to be accepted into the honor society is to have a cumulative GPA of at least 3.5, and be at least one full semester in their respective programs. A chapter initiation banquet is held every spring during the second Thursday in April, and the application fee is \$55 for initiation, which will include a full year's membership, certificate and pin. We also order T-shirts and graduation regalia each year for all students who are interested. We have regular meetings each month and an array of activities which include social gatherings, Canned food drives, toy drives, school supply drives, lectures, guest presenters and participation in different causes such as Breast

Cancer Awareness Month.

The Beta Omicron Chapter of CSI has been yet again very busy this academic year as well. During the spring of 2013 we adopted the nursing home, Community Place Nursing Home, where we donated over \$300 in supplies and money. Each year during Christmas the organization adopts a family from The Angel Tree sponsored by the Salvation Army. We also participated in the Latasha Norman Domestic Violence 5K Walk, and the American Cancer Society Making Strides Against Breast Cancer 5K Walk, all during the fall 2013 semester. The counseling organization is sponsored by the American Counseling Association (ACA) and is a major part of our Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP) and Council on Rehabilitation Education (CORE) accreditation efforts. We are proud of all of our students as well as faculty members who support this organization and realize its importance as part of our department and counseling field.

# CALL ME MISTER

## Comes to the College of Education and Human Development

by Dr. Evornia Kincaid



Jackson State University's College of Education and Human Development (COEHD) partnered with Clemson University and the W.K. Kellogg Foundation to establish the JSU Call Me MISTER® (Mentors Instructing Students Towards Effective Role Models) Program. This leadership development program is designed to increase the number of African-American males and the quality of education in elementary schools by investing in male college students with the desire to teach young children. This program is a co-curriculum designed to accompany and enhance the teacher training provided through the elementary education program. JSU Call Me Mister utilizes a cohort model, provides financial and academic support, program mentors, and professional develop-

ment opportunities designed to help the MISTERS to reach their goals of graduation and becoming great teachers and role models. In return, our MISTERS are involved in community service and service-learning projects, support each other, recruit males to major in elementary education at JSU, and commit to teaching a year in an elementary school in Mississippi for each year that they received financial support through the program.

Currently two cohorts of MISTERS have been selected. Our first cohort of five was selected in fall 2012 and began program activities during the spring 2013 semester. Our second cohort was selected during summer 2013 and began activities when the academic year began. We are very excited about this program. Jackson State University's COEHD is already known as being one of the largest producers of African-American educators. This program has the potential to assist us in making a significant impact on the number of African-American males currently teaching in elementary schools throughout the state.

# School of Lifelong Learning Honored by the City of Jackson

by Dr. Carlos Wilson

The School of Lifelong Learning was featured in an article in the Black History Month edition of the *Jackson Advocate*. The article highlighted the Professional Interdisciplinary Studies degree program and services that are offered at the Ridgewood Road location. The article also included testimonials from graduates and current students of the program.

“I began my educational experience with JSU’s School of Lifelong Learning in August of 2010. Returning to school as a non-traditional student was intimidating to me; however, the Lifelong Learning faculty and staff took away the fear,” Mark Roth stated.

The article caught the attention of Jackson City Councilwoman LaRita Cooper-Stokes. She invited members of the Lifelong Learning administration to the Jackson City Council meeting on March 11, 2014, to be honored for the vision and mission of educating the adult and nontraditional student populations. Councilwoman Cooper-Stokes honored the School of Lifelong Learning with a commendation from the City of Jackson.



Councilwoman LaRita Cooper-Stokes, Dr. Juetta Bingham, and Dr. Carlos Wilson during City Council meeting.



The School of Lifelong Learning is located in the E.E. Thrash Universities Center on Ridgewood Road in Jackson, Miss.



# Dr. Locord Wilson

## JSU Professor Receives Lighthouse School Leader Award

Dr. Locord Wilson is an associate professor and the coordinator of the Educational Technology program in the College of Education and Human Development. Wilson is presently serving her second full six-year term as an elected school board member of the Scott County School District. She continues to be the only African American and the only female serving on the board. She presently serves as the board president.

The Scott County School District was honored with the Lighthouse School Leader Lantern Award for attaining a superior level of student achievement. Dr. Wilson accepted the award for the board. The award was bestowed during a luncheon ceremony on November 12, 2013, during the Mississippi School Boards Association Lighthouse School Leader Awards Program. The program, co-sponsored by Program of Research and Evaluation for Public Schools, applauds performances based on high standards set in the state's accountability system.

To receive this prestigious award, a school district must have earned a grade of "B" (high performing), and have no school in

the district with a grade lower than "C". Only 31 of Mississippi's 152 school districts qualified for this honor. The Lighthouse School Leader Awards Program was established by the Mississippi School Board Association at the beginning of the 2003-2004 school year in recognition of the unsung efforts of school districts to meet more rigorous state and federal accountability standards. Members of the Association include the Boards of Trustees of all public school districts in Mississippi.

Dr. Wilson believes that the superintendent's job is to run the district. The board's job is to make sure the district runs well. Research has proven that "effective school boards make a difference in the lives of children."

# SCRC Professors Pioneers

## Mississippi Counseling Association 2013 Conference

The Department of School, Community and Rehabilitation Counseling made history at the Mississippi Counseling Association annual conference this year by being the first university in the history of the conference to exhibit poster presentations. These poster presentations were presented by SCRC faculty and students and were on a range of topics including bullying, utilizing music therapy in treatment processes, integrating technology in counseling and dropout prevention. They were well received by all in attendance at the networking social held in

November at the Jackson Convention Center. JSU students and faculty were the only presenters during this event. The faculty presenters were Drs. Lakitta Johnson, Regina Fults-McMurtery and Ronica Arnold Branson. The student presenters included Melissa Spencer, Adrian Van Buren Travis, Whitney McDowell, Antonio Horton and Shenecia Stamps. Melissa Spencer was elected President of the Mississippi Graduate Student Counseling Association.



# Let's Highlight

## Dr. Tony Latiker



Dr. Tony Latiker is an associate professor in the Department of Elementary and Early Childhood Education at Jackson State University. Prior to coming to JSU, Latiker served as the director of Teacher and Administrator Preparation, coordinator of Migrant Education, and coordinator of Rural and Low-Income Schools for the Mississippi Department of Education. He has also served as an adult basic education instructor and online university instructor. Some of the highlights of his tenure at JSU include: participation in the development of the *Mississippi Beginning Teacher Support Train the Trainers Program & Guide* utilized by the Mississippi Department of Education to train mentors of first-year teachers statewide, publishing a chapter on African-American college student persistence in Tony Manson's *Twenty Issues in Teaching African American Pupils: A collective Experience of What Works*, publishing an article in *The Journal of Interdisciplinary Studies* entitled, "An exploratory study of factors influencing doctoral candidates' choice of dissertation topic within an HBCU," being appointed a National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education Board of Examiners (NCATE BOE) site visit chair, and being appointed as academic coach for the JSU Call Me MISTER Program, a collaborative partnership with Clemson University and the W.K. Kellogg

Foundation to train and support cohorts of African-American males majoring in elementary education.

Latiker has focused much of his research on teaching and service activities designed to enhance student learning, program quality, and research and publication opportunities for candidates within the Department of Elementary and Early Childhood Education. One of the most significant contributions that Latiker made to the Department of Elementary and Early Childhood Education was to spearhead the founding of the *Ruth Searcy Literacy Conference Monograph* in 2011. Each year this monograph includes papers by JSU graduate students, public school teachers, and university faculty members who present at the conference each year. Additionally, Latiker has mentored undergraduate elementary education candidates through projects funded by the JSU Center for Undergraduate Studies, Center for University Scholars, JSU Creative Awards, and the JSU Call Me MISTER Program; and published several articles based on research conducted in these collaborations. Currently, Dr. Latiker is focusing his research on issues dealing with candidate preparation and performance on teacher licensure exams and examining the effects of implementing low-cost student assessment measures on faculty productivity.



# JACKSON STATE UNIVERSITY UNDERGRADUATE ELEMENTARY EDUCATION MAJORS AWARDED

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## 2013 NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF AFRICAN AMERICAN STUDIES UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH COMPETITION



JiaVanti Johns, Brandy Jackson, Leontyne Snell, Latisha Johnson, and Brianna McAllister presented their award-winning paper, “Factors Influencing African American Male Choice of Elementary Education as a Major.” Eric Boone, Jessica Trader, and Tearra Williams also presented their award-winning paper, “Effective Teaching Modes of the iGeneration at an HBCU.” The

students’ research papers will be published in the conference proceedings. Drs. Tony Latiker and Evornia Kincaid, assistant professors of elementary education in the College of Education and Human Development, served as mentors and advisors for the students who were honored.



# ACHE GRANTS AWARDED

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## FUNDING RESEARCH FOR TWO SCHOOL OF LIFELONG LEARNING FACULTY MEMBERS

by Dr. Carlos Wilson



Dr. Yu-Chun Kuo

Dr. Yu-Chun Kuo, a Jackson State University assistant professor of Instructional Design and Development, has won a grant from the Association for Continuing Higher Education to help fund her research proposal related to adult learners. Kuo's proposal, "The Impact of Using Information and Communication Technologies on Adult Learners: Cognitive and Non-Cognitive Learning Outcomes of African American Undergraduates," was chosen as a recipient of the Association for Continuing Higher Education's Alex Charters Research Grant. The award was presented during the ACHE Annual Conference and Meeting in Lexington, KY, during the luncheon on November 5, 2013. David Grebel, president of the ACHE, lauded JSU's ongoing engagement in the work of continuing education. "We do not give this award every year. It depends on the application. Dr. Kuo's application is outstanding. We were honored to be able to make the grant to her," Grebel said.



Dr. Jie Ke

Dr. Jie Ke, an assistant professor of Human Resource Development at Jackson State University, was nominated and selected as the winner of the 2014 ACHE South Wayne Whelan Research Grant. The committee was very impressed with the quality and scope of her research proposal entitled, "African American Adult Undergraduates in Focus: Motivations, Expectations and Aspirations." The purpose of this study is 1) to understand motivations and aspirations of returning African American adult learners, 2) to gain perceptions of African American undergraduates on effective classroom teaching, advising and supporting services provided by the degree program and their institutions, and 3) foster teaching innovation by creating cognitive adult teaching and learning models, recommending learning infrastructure and facilitation strategies and bridging the gaps between teaching and learning. The grant award was presented to Ke during the ACHE South Annual Conference in Nashville, TN on April 14, 2014.

# Urban Higher Education

## The Executive Ph.D.

### FOCUSED - INTENSE - DISCIPLINED

The Executive Ph.D. Program (EPHD) in Urban Higher Education is designed for experienced faculty, executives, middle/entry level managers and other institutional leaders in higher education and related human services agencies. The program prepares these professionals to respond effectively to the challenges posed by urban and metropolitan communities in a pluralistic society undergoing sustained social, economic and political change. Our program serves as a learning community to provide participants with a doctoral experience that is: multi-disciplinary in format, cohort based, problem-centered, time-bound, fully engaged and immersed, and integrative in nature.



#### Recent Program Highlights:

In April, Cohort 9 spent a week in Trinidad visiting higher education institutions

Recently completed Graduate Program Review

Currently planning the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration

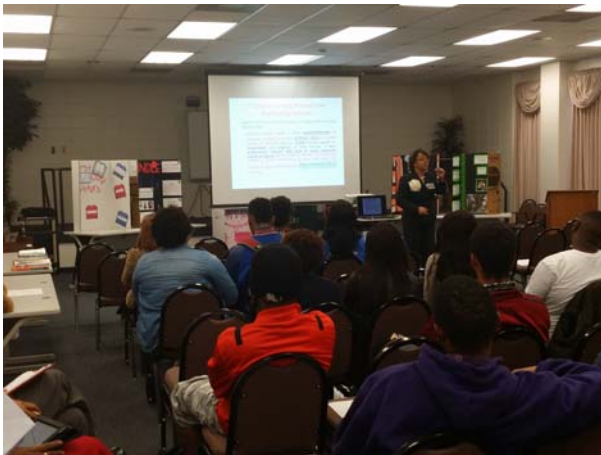


## Celebrating Faculty Accomplishments

Dr. Benjamin Ngwudike was chosen as a reviewer for the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. The North Central Association of Colleges and Schools (NCA) is the accreditation body for 19 states including Arizona, Arkansas, Colorado, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, and Michigan. Ngwudike also had a paper accepted for publication by the Journal of Education (International). This academic year Benjamin participated in reviewing an Introductory Statistics text for OpenStax College which can be accessed at <http://openstaxcollege.org/textbooks/introductory-statistics/get>. In addition to his other accomplishments, Dr. Ngwudike authored Complete Grammar Guide for ELL & ESL Writers published by TATE Publishing of Mustang, Oklahoma. The book can be accessed at <https://www.tatepublishing.com/bookstore/search.php?search=a+complete+grammar+guide+for+ell+and+esl+writers>.



# Urban Education Conference 2013



The College of Education and Human Development at Jackson State University joined the National Education Association in its 92<sup>nd</sup> Annual American Education Week which celebrates “public education and honors individuals who are making a difference in ensuring that every child receives a quality education.” In special observance of American Education Week, the CEHD held its Annual Urban Education Conference on November 18-20, 2013. This year’s Urban Education Conference theme was “Great Public Schools: A Basic Right and Our Responsibility.”

The conference was held in the Joseph H. Jackson College of Education building on the campus of Jackson State University. The

conference featured Common Core Standards, safety issues for students in public schools, and an array of presentations from health and nutrition to the latest educational applications available to students and teachers. The keynote speaker for the Common Core strand was Dr. Monica Farbe. Farbe is a principal from the Baton Rouge, LA Public Schools District. The safety strand featured panelists: Chief Lindsey Horton, City of Jackson; Sheriff Tyrone Lewis, Hinds County; Lieutenant James Lyons, JSU Public Safety; Investigator Victor Mason, Mississippi Office of the Attorney General; and Robert S. Smith, District Attorney for Hinds County.



Jackson State University Students register for the Urban Education Conference on the Green-Gibb Pedestrian Walkway (Plaza).

# KIDS KOLLEGE REOPENS!

## SUMMER 2014

by Tierra Strong

Kids Kollege is an enrichment program housed on the campus of Jackson State University that offers an after-school program and summer camp. Since its inception in 1983, the program has had a great impact on the lives of Mississippi families through its engaging and enriching offerings. It is the goal that Kids Kollege continues the legacy of “Challenging Minds and Changing Lives” of young children through academic excellence and exposure to the Arts.

The program has recently come under new leadership. Tierra Strong, a former teacher and former Kids Kollege participant, has big plans for the program. “I am a first-hand witness of the positive effects that the program offers.” With that premise, she plans to extend the same opportunities for future Kids Kollege participants by collaborating with faculty, staff, students, and the community to enrich the lives of students and families.

The mission of Kids Kollege is to provide a high quality enrichment experience in a safe environment that includes opportunities for growth and development in educational, emotional, social, and intellectual areas.



Moving forward, Kids Kollege’s mission will be to embrace its rich history while launching innovative ways to engage program participants.

Kids Kollege, in collaboration with the College of Education and Blackburn Laboratory School will serve incoming 7<sup>th</sup> grade students in summer 2014 by offering enrichment in the areas of math and language arts. The after-school program will open in August 2014, and traditional summer camp will open in 2015. If you would like more information, contact Kids Kollege at (601) 979-5437 or (601) 979-2238 or via email at [tierra.d.strong@jsums.edu](mailto:tierra.d.strong@jsums.edu).



# Lottie W. Thornton Early CHILDHOOD Center



by Latasha Brown



The Lottie W. Early Childhood Center provides early childhood services for JSU faculty, staff, students, and the general community. It serves a multi-purpose in the area of early childhood education. It offers diversified laboratory experiences for undergraduate students in cognitive, psychomotor and the social development of young children. It facilitates the curriculum and research efforts of university faculty and students in the College of Education and Human Development Department of Elementary & Early Childhood Education. It bears the name of a noted educator and former faculty member, Dr. Lottie W. Thornton.

The mission of the Lottie W. Thornton Early Childhood Center in the Department of Elementary and Early Childhood Education is to provide students, researchers, and practitioners' opportunities to observe and work with young children, while serving as a model

urban, literacy-based early childhood education program for young children.

While providing an engaging educational setting for young children, the Lottie W. Thornton Early Childhood Center is a research and teaching early childhood program for University faculty, staff, students and the general public. Licensed by the Mississippi Department of Health and Human Services, the Center operates a full-year, full day program with a primary focus on early literacy. The Center serves children ages 3 and 4. The Center operates under the auspice of the Department of Elementary and Early Childhood Education within the College of Education and Human Development.



# Cleopatra D. Thompson

## *Curriculum Research and Development Center*

by Ms. Nadine Gilbert

The [Cleopatra D. Thompson](#) Curriculum Center bears the name of a former Dean of the College of Education with a rich legacy tied to the development of the university's teacher education program. The center located in room 314 of the Joseph H. Jackson College of Education Building, and serves as the bridge for relevant PK-12 curricula, technology, and best practices for instructional delivery. It has been redesigned to support the seamless transition between higher education and PK-12 for our college faculty, pre-service teachers, and all education majors.

Faculty, students, and staff have access to a variety of multimedia resources and curricular materials for PK-12 classrooms, such as access to Renaissance Learning Educational Software for the Early Childhood and Elementary Education departments. In addition, special appropriations were allocated to completely upgrade all elementary and secondary textbooks, literature from various countries, and a variety of resources used by candidates in all academic departments. Special collections were acquired in support of all areas of the Responsive Educator Model. The Center is further designed to provide:

- Practicum experiences for prospective and in-service teachers through simulated classroom experiences;
- Facilities for designing and constructing two and three dimensional instructional aids;
- A variety of audio-visual aids;
- Video and podcast filming and viewing; and
- A readily accessible model library of elementary and secondary curriculum materials and textbooks, which have been collected to assist teacher training courses.



The Cleopatra D. Thompson Curriculum Center  
Located in the Joseph H. Jackson College of  
Education Building

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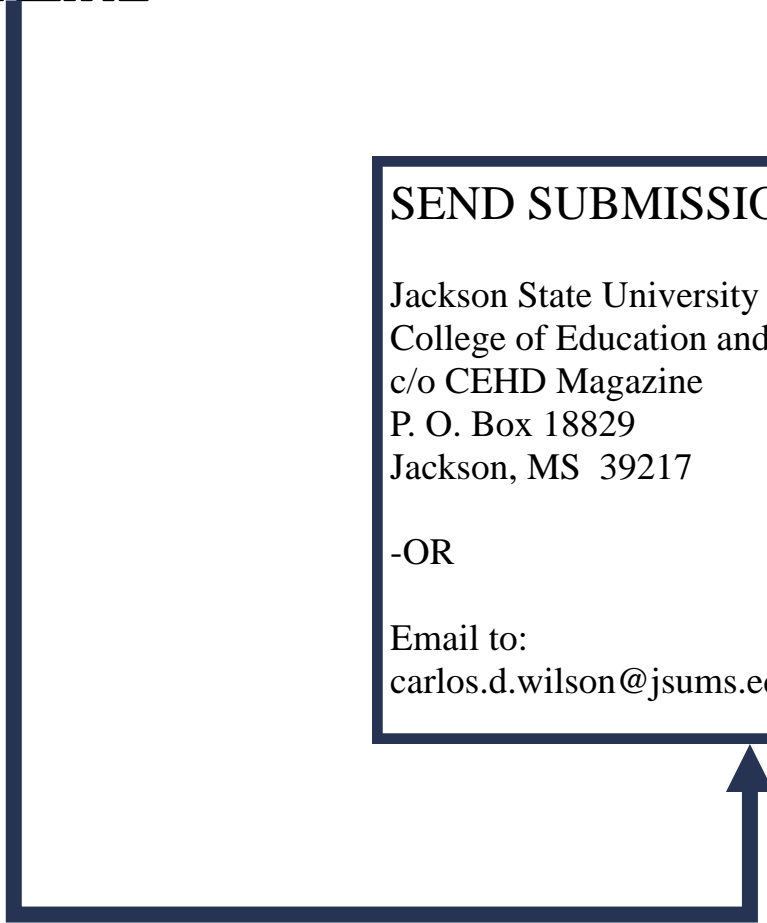
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