

# PUBLIC POLICY & ADMINISTRATION

SCHOOL OF POLICY + PLANNING / COLLEGE OF PUBLIC SERVICE



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## MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

Dr. Johnny Gilleylen Sr.  
Interim Program Director  
Public Policy and Administration

Welcome to Public Policy and Administration! We offer two graduate degree programs—the Master of Public Policy and Administration and the PhD in Public Administration. Since the inception of our programs, PPA has continually strived to provide the highest level of academic and practitioner training for students preparing for significant professional and managerial positions in a variety of settings. The MPPA degree has been offered at Jackson State University since the fall of 1975 and has been accredited since 1978 by the National Association of Schools of Public Affairs and Administration. The Program is designed to equip students with the skills of contemporary management that provide for efficient and effective practitioners, primarily in the areas of public, non-profit, and quasi-public organizations. The PhD program in Public Administration has been offered since the 1992 academic year. It is designed to have a management and policy focus while centered on urban management. The program prepares students for careers in executive management, teaching, and research.

With Jackson State University located in the capital city of the State of Mississippi, PPA programs are particularly suited to contribute to the political and social capital of the State. Our location provides faculty and students access to state and national leaders in areas of public policy and administration. The programs have often leveraged these interactions into meaningful practical experiences and job opportunities for students. The relationship between the City of Jackson and PPA programs is one of the strengths of our programs. The City actively employs program graduates.

The faculty of PPA has practitioner and academic experience. Several faculty members have national affiliation and serve on local, state and national professional and civic boards. All members of the faculty hold doctorate degrees in the areas of public administration or a related field. Faculty is continually engaged in research and is published in a variety of scholarly journals and books. They contribute to the greater community through service and professional consulting.

The student population of Public Policy and Administration comes from diverse cultural and professional backgrounds. Coming from nations around the world,

students recognize the excellence of our programs. Many students come to our programs from local, state and regional public and non-profit agencies seeking the requisite skills and certification necessary for career advancement. Our student population ranges from 100 to 150 students with a normal class size of 10 to 20 students. The student population is expected to grow to 180 to 200 students in the 5 years.

Our graduates are located at all levels of administration and academia worldwide. At the national level graduates are program directors and administrators at the US Department of Housing and Urban Development, Federal Transit Administration, US Department of Homeland Security, National Alliance on Mental Illness, US Department of Agriculture, the Children Defense Fund, and the Federal Emergency Management Agency. At the regional and state levels, graduates are state representatives, program directors for agencies such as the Foundation for the Mid-South, Mississippi Department of Transportation, Mississippi Department of Human Services, and the Mississippi Department of Rehabilitative Services. At the county and local levels, graduates are city administrators, members of city councils, directors of nonprofit agencies such as the Metro Jackson Housing Partnership and the Jackson-Evers International Airport as well as county administrators such as the county tax collector. At the international level our graduates are located in the administration of national federal agencies such as the South African Department of Prisons and the Office of the Prime Minister of Swaziland, Ministry of Interior and Ministry of Education of Thailand. The list of graduates in academia is international in scope listing among college presidents and secretary-generals.

The future of public administration is strong and growing. The complexity of society is not abating. Global, national and local problems require solutions from trained public administrators and policymakers. It is the role of Jackson State University's Public Policy and Administration programs to prepare the next leaders to devise and the manage much-needed solutions.

# In Loving Memory of Our Beloved Colleague Khashruzzaman Choudhury

The Public Policy and Administration Program is sad for the loss of Dr. Khashruzzaman Choudhury. Dr. Khashruzzaman Choudhury, Associate Professor of Public Policy and Administration, passed away on February 4, 2013 in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. He served as an Associate Professor for six years and Ph.D. Program coordinator for two years in the Public Policy and Administration Program. His absence will be greatly felt by the faculty, staff and students.

Dr. Choudhury was a well-respected scholar. He received a Ph.D. degree in Economics from the Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs, Syracuse University (1988), a Master in Public Administration (M.P.A) from the Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University (1978) and a Bachelor of Arts (B.A. Honors) in Economics from the University of Dhaka, Bangladesh (1965).

Dr. Choudhury has been widely published in reputable academic journals such as the Journal of Business and Behavioral Sciences, Atlantic Economic Journal, the Bangladesh Journal of Public Administration, the Bangladesh Development Studies. He authored and co-authored books, monographs and book chapters in the areas of public and healthcare economics, financial management, disaster management, international development and education. Dr. Choudhury served as a referee for some of the most prestigious journals in the field such as Urban Affairs Review, Southwestern Economic Review, Journal of Developing Areas, the North American Journal of Economics and Finance and the Journal of Applied Case Research.

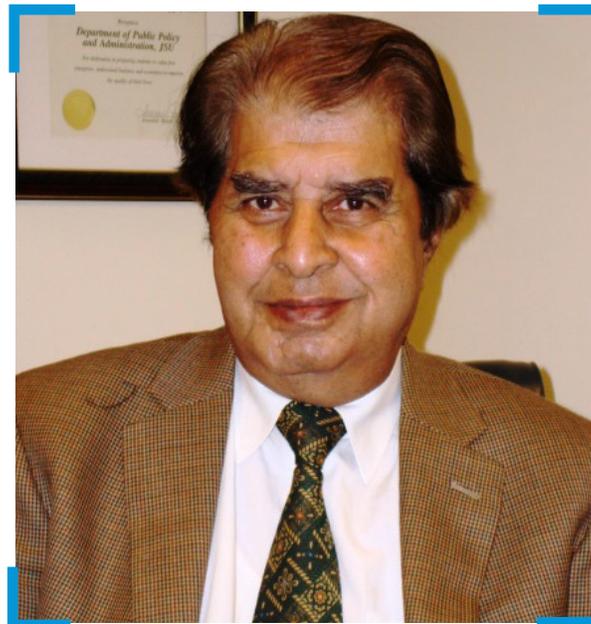
He presented numerous papers at professional conferences of American Society of Public Administration, American Economic Association; Academy of International Business; Mid-West, Southwestern and Southern Political Science Associations; South-

western Society of Economists; Southwestern Economics Association; Urban Affairs Association; Southeastern Conference on Public Administration, Mid-South Academy of Economics and Finance; Southwest Case Research Association; Southwestern Finance Association; International Studies Association; etc. He also served as a discussant/chairperson in many of these meetings.

Throughout his life Dr. Choudhury also served as an economic consultant to international organizations such as UNDP, UNICEF, UNESCO, USAID, Asian Development Bank, International Council for Educational Development (ICED), International Development Research Centre (IDRC), (Canada) Housing and Urban Development (HUD), Bangladesh Planning Commission, Bangladesh Public Administration Training Center (BPATC), several Syracuse-based law firms, and Bangladesh-based multinational companies. Consultation areas included housing and economic development, homeownership tenure and costs, health economics, education and economic development, development-oriented administration, export promotion, curriculum development, teacher training and poverty alleviation.

His teaching experience at Jackson State University was related to his specialization in Public Budgeting and Financial Management, Health Economics, Economic Development, and Urban Management and Services. During his stint at JSU, Dr. Choudhury inspired and mentored generations of students and helped them begin their academic journeys. He coordinated over 20 Ph.D. dissertations and research projects. Moreover, he was always accompanied by students when presenting research findings at the national and regional conferences in our field.

We will cherish his loved memory. In our hearts he will be remembered as Dr. K. Choudhury as he always liked to call himself this way.



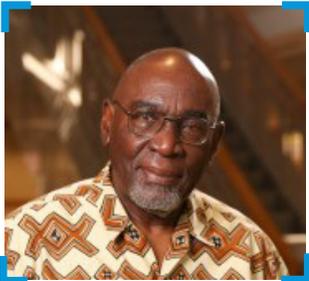
# WELCOME TO OUR NEW DEAN AND FACULTY!



**Ricardo Brown**, is the Dean of College of Public Service and Professor of Epidemiology and Biostatistics. Dr. Ricardo A. Brown, a veteran administrator and cardiovascular physiologist, who has worked with the National Institutes of Health and led programs to open higher education pathways for underrepresented populations, is the new dean of Jackson State University's College of Public Service. Dr. Brown, Howard University alum, began his career as a Professor in the Department of Physiology at Wayne State University School of Medicine in Detroit, MI. Through his research program, he published extensively on the cardiovascular effects of alcohol consumption. During his tenure, he received recognition for medical student training; directed training programs designed to increase participation of underrepresented minority students in STEM programs, biomedical sciences and medicine; and served on numerous university administrative and national committees.



**Jae-Young Ko**, Associate Professor of Public Policy and Administration, has a broad educational background, including public administration, political science, and environmental science. He has extensive research experience in analyzing the interactions between the natural ecosystem and human economy. With his colleagues, Dr. Ko has been working on the following research areas: human dimension of natural ecosystem management; institutional analysis for environmental governance, including property rights and marine resource management; ecological economics, including monetary and biophysical valuations of ecosystem service; sustainable development, and environmental, energy and marine policy. His teaching interests are in the areas of environmental policy, natural resource management, ecological economics, quantitative analysis, and urban management.



**Sylvester Murray**, Visiting Professor of Public Policy and Administration is a former Professor of Public Administration at Cleveland State University (1990-2008), and Professor of Government and Public Administration at Savannah State University (2008-2012). His teaching and research specialties are public budgeting and finance, urban administration and management. He has published articles in *Public Administration Review*, the *Public Manager*, and the *Journal of Public Management & Social Policy*. He is a former city manager of San Diego, CA., Cincinnati, OH., Ann Arbor, MI., and Inkster, MI. He was also manager of government consulting at Coopers & Lybrand in Columbus, OH. Murray has served as President of the American Society for Public Administration, and the International City/County Management Association. He also served as Interim Executive Director of the National Forum of Black Public Administrators, and as President of the Conference of Minority Public Administrators. He received a B.A. in history from Lincoln University of Pennsylvania, a M.G.A. in state and local government administration from the University of Pennsylvania, and a M.A. in economics from Eastern Michigan University. Also, Murray is a Fellow of the National Academy of Public Administration.



**Chester Robinson**, Associate Professor of Public Policy and Administration, comes to Jackson State University with a wealth of professional and academic experience. In his previous career as a federal civil servant, he was a senior program manager in several health care programs including Medicare, childhood immunizations, hospice care, and long-term care for the elderly. Dr. Robinson's academic education includes a Doctor of Public Administration (DPA) with a focus on health policy, a Master of Policy Science, a Master of Liberal Arts, and a Bachelor of Science in Social Work. Before coming to JSU, he taught at several universities, including Tennessee State University, the University of Maryland at Baltimore County, and Shaw University. His teaching areas are public administration, health policy, epidemiology, financial management, program implementation and organizational behavior. Dr. Robinson has published a number of articles in peer reviewed and professional publications such as *Public Administration Review*, *The Researcher* and *PA Times*, and he has authored two books. During his stay at JSU, Dr. Robinson expects to continue his research interests in hospice care, public policy issues, and organizational culture and safety.

# PUBLIC POLICY AND ADMINISTRATION PROGRAM COLLEGE OF PUBLIC SERVICE

BECOME AN AGENT OF CHANGE! BECOME A PUBLIC ADMINISTRATOR!



The Conference of Minority Public Administrators (COMPA) is the national entity that provides professional development opportunities for all American minority public administrators. Specific goals are to provide leadership in the elimination of discriminatory practices in the public sector; promote recruitment of minorities for leadership positions at all levels of government; provide a forum to promote, upgrade, and refine skills of minority administrators; develop and maintain a roster of skilled minority professionals in public administration; form partnerships with educational institutions; and establish linkages with other organizations and agencies in a coalition building effort that will address issues relevant to the purposes of COMPA.

## 2013-2014 NATIONAL OFFICERS

Andrew Ewoh, Ph.D.  
President

Gedeon M. Mudacumura,  
Ph.D.  
President Elect

Gloria J. Billingsley, Ph.D.  
1st Vice President

William Carter  
Secretary

Michael Massiah  
Treasurer

Gina Scutelnicu, Ph.D.  
Parliamentarian

# FACULTY ACHIEVEMENTS



**Johnny Gilleylen Sr.**, Interim Program Director and Associate Professor, has been nominated by our accrediting agency - the Network of Schools of Public Policy, Affairs and Administration (NASPAA) to chair the 2014 Spring peer review site visit for University of Arkansas at Little Rock. He also serves as member for the NASPAA's Diversity and Social Equity committee. Dr. Gilleylen also serves as an Associate for the JSU Institute of Government and, in this capacity, he presented his research "Data Driven Modeling for Strategic Planning and Program Evaluation." On November 14, 2013 Dr. Gilleylen was recognized by the Mississippi Public Transit Association (MPTA) with the "Friends of Transit Award" in appreciation for his commitment, dedication and outstanding support of MPTA's efforts in providing regional, sustainable community transportation for residents in Mississippi.



**Gloria Billingsley**, Associate Professor, was elected Vice-President of the Conference of Minority Public Administrators organization (COMPA). She is the co-author (with Cassandra Hawkins-Wilson) of the poster presentation "Faith Without Works Is Dead: The Influence of Religion on Healthy Eating Habits" at the 2013 American Society for Public Administration Conference. Dr. Billingsley also delivered the presentation "Community Involvement as a Strategy for Overcoming Barriers to African-American Participation in Health Research - But What Is Community Involvement?" at the 2013 JSU University Scholars Symposium on November 7.



**Bennett Odunsi**, Professor, presented his research titled "Assessing the Effectiveness of Reconstituted Grievance Redress Mechanism: The Case of the Public Protector in South Africa" at the Global Awareness Society 22nd Annual International Conference which was held in Rome, Italy on May 24-26, 2013. He also served as session chair for the panel Globalization and New Poverty Issues at the same conference. Dr. Odunsi was nominated as the 2013 male faculty member of the year as part of the 2013 HBCU Awards for having earned media coverage for teaching and professional contributions in his industry or field, or for having demonstrated volunteerism, mentoring or valuable leadership within the campus setting and beyond.



**Gina Scutelnicu**, Assistant Professor, had her article "Special Districts as Institutional Choices for Service Delivery: Views of Public Officials on the Performance of Community Development Districts in Florida," accepted for publication in *Public Administration Quarterly*. She delivered three conference presentations at the American Society for Public Administration National Conference and the Southeastern Conference of Public Administration. Dr. Scutelnicu was elected as Parliamentarian for the Conference of Minority Public Administrators. She also served as journal article reviewer for *Economic Development Quarterly* and *Public Administration Quarterly*; as an article editor for a Sage Open manuscript and as ad-hoc moderator for the E-Government Performance, Services and Solutions Panel at the American Society for Public Administration National Conference. Dr. Scutelnicu was awarded a couple of recognitions this calendar year: the 2012-2013 College of Public Service Individual External Funding Award and the 2013 JSU Innovator for distinguished Innovation in Research and Teaching. Also, Dr. Scutelnicu was selected to participate in the second cohort of the JSU Academy for Research and Scholarly Engagement.

# THE 2013 JSU PUBLIC POLICY STUDENT SYMPOSIUM

By Jae-Young Ko, Associate Professor



The 2013 JSU Public Policy Student Symposium was held on December 4, 2013. The event was arranged as a component of two classes: Seminar in Community and Economic Development and Seminar in Politics of Environmental Administration, taught by Associate Professor Jae-Young Ko.

The objectives of the event are as follows: First, the symposium aimed at increasing independent research skills. Graduate students are expected to build the ability to choose research topics by themselves, generate research questions, collect data, analyze the data, and generate conclusions based on the results during the research process. Second, the symposium targeted

enhancing skills of public communications in a professional setting. It is critical for students to have capability to deliver their own message in a clear and logical manner in professional settings for career development. Third, the event aimed at improving writing skills. There were twelve presentations, covering diverse topics in the area of urban and environmental management.

The student presentations were evaluated by organization of presentation, subject matter/content, use of aids, nonverbal gestures, eye contact, delivery, and responses to questions from audience. Top three presentations were recognized for the MPPA and PhD students, respectively.

This event has got strong support from the Public Policy and Administration Program and the College of Public Service. The Program's Director provided refreshments and Dean Brown delivered a keynote speech for this event. All of the PPA faculty members as well as other PPA students and JSU faculty and staff members also attended the event. In the future Dr. Ko will arrange the student symposium take place during the last month of each semester for the coming years.

# AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION NATIONAL CONFERENCE

By Gina Scutelnicu, Assistant Professor

On March 15-19, 2013 faculty and students in the Program of Public Policy and Administration at Jackson State University attended the American Society for Public Administration (ASPA) Annual Conference in New Orleans, Louisiana. ASPA is the premier professional association for public administration practitioners and academics since 1939. Its annual meeting brings together one of the largest national and international crowds of participants in the public affairs area. The Program of Public Policy and Administration was well represented. Dr. Gloria Billingsley had a poster presentation together with Ph.D. student Cassandra Hawkins-Wilson (not present) discussing the influence of religion on healthy eating habits; Dr. Gina Scutelnicu and Ph.D. student, Ashlee Theodore, participated in a panel discussing e-government performance, services and solutions; and Ph.D. candidate, Jonny Amasa-Annang and Dr. Gina Scutelnicu participated in a discussion circle entitled "Utilizing Public-Private Partnerships to Implement Successful Re-Entry Programs for

Ex-Offenders."

ASPA conference is a great experience for academics and practitioners and students interested in learning and sharing ideas about the field and practice of public administration and public affairs. It is also a wonderful opportunity for networking and professional development!



# JACKSON POLICE CHIEF ADDRESSES JSU STUDENTS AND FACULTY

By Chester Robinson, Associate Professor



On November 11, Police Chief and JSU alumnus, Lindsey Horton, spoke to a capacity attendance forum on public safety and law enforcement in Jackson, MS. Chief Horton has spent 29 years working his way up the Jackson Police Department's chain of command, including 11 years as a deputy chief.

Horton opened his remarks by stating 'It is important for us to not only make people safe in the city of Jackson, but also to create an environment where people feel safe.' He emphasized that this goal has been an increasing challenge over the past 5 years given the impact of a national recession, high unemployment, and mounting fiscal pressures to 'do more with less.'

Despite these difficulties, he said the Police Department has made significant progress. Cited examples include piloting the 'Shot Spotter' program, which employs new technology to quickly identify the location of any firearm discharge. A natural compliment to this new technology is the JPD's newly created Direct Action Response Team (DART). These two new supplements to the Department's armamentarium have the potential to considerably improve the JPD response and investigation of crimes or disturbances. Progress has also been made in incorporating a greater number of women into the police force. Currently, about one-third of the Department's officers are women.

He said that the greatest challenge the Department has is dealing with the relatively small core of criminals who are repeat offenders. Horton indicated that less than 10% of the people arrested create 90% of the crime. To deal with this challenge, Horton's wish list for the New Year is to 'create more room in the Inn for repeat offenders and to develop more effective ways of dealing with drug abuse.' He noted that research has shown a direct correlation between drug use, particularly crack cocaine, and the crime rate. Drugs, he said, cause people to lose their value system, and have an impact on everyone in the community, either directly or indirectly.

# DEVELOPING ANALYTICAL CRITICAL THINKING BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

By Gina Scutelnicu, Assistant Professor

Our students had the opportunity to participate in a couple of events that helped them develop analytical critical thinking when it comes to public policy making. During the month of February and March, the MPPA students enrolled in the Public Policy class visited the Mississippi state capitol to observe legislative sessions and attend committee meetings. They observed a House, a Senate and a Judiciary session committee meeting. Dr. Gina Scutelnicu plans to take advantage of the Jackson State's Public Policy and Administration strategic location in the state capitol and encourage students to continue these visits in the future in order to find practical applicability of the material taught in class.

On October 30th students and faculty in the Public Policy and Administration Program participated in an interview about Congressional dysfunction led by Michael Cassadine and Heather Peters, founders of Voice for the People organization. Voice for the People is "an organization of the people, by the people, and for the people" who aims to raise awareness on how government

dysfunction affects the average citizens. The interview discussed how Congressional dysfunction was affecting our faculty and students' communities and it focused on four main topics, as follows: general perception of Congress; how adequately do Congresspersons, Senators, and the federal government represent their constituents; if our faculty and students have ever thought about running for office; and what solutions would be viable to address failings in our federal government. Our faculty and students' opinions would become part of a documentary that Voice for the People plans to produce by the end of 2014 summer, after completing their bus tour throughout forty eight states.



# PUBLIC POLICY AND ADMINISTRATION STUDENT ASSOCIATION OFFICERS 2013-2014

The JSU Public Policy and Administration Student Association aims at involving graduate students in the Public Policy and Administration field and provide a basis for communication with faculty and staff at Jackson State University. The organization also intends to broaden the perspective of Public Policy and Administration and its role in academia and professional development through the organization's involvement in forums and conferences.

## 2013-2014 OFFICERS

### President

Almesha Campbell, Ph.D. student

### Vice-President

James Thompson, MPPA student

### Secretary

Gloria Hirse, Ph.D. student

### Assistant Secretary

Theresa Ramos, MPPA student

### MPPA student Treasurer

Jason Pope, Ph.D. student

### Parliamentarian

Ashlee Theodore, Ph.D. student

### Faculty Advisors

Dr. Gina Scutelnicu &  
Dr. Chester Robinson

Activities of the Public Policy and Administration Student Association By Gina Scutelnicu, PPA Student Association Faculty Advisor The Public Policy and Administration (PPA) Student Association had a busy 2013. Between January 26 and March 8 members of the association assisted the Mississippi Symphony Orchestra with the administration of a customer satisfaction survey at five different concerts. This experience helped our students find practical applicability to the research methods concepts learned in class and also helped our program become more visible in the Jackson metro area community.

On April 10, during the JSU International Week's Events, the PPA Student Association organized a bake sale to raise money for the STOP Spinal Muscular Atrophy and the association. On November 16, the PPA Student Association teamed up with the JSU Graduate Student Association to gather a record high number of 25 students and faculty who participated in a clean-up for the association's Adopt-A-Highway program. The PPA Student Association adopted a portion of the Highway 80 encompassing the Battlefield Park located in the City of Jackson.

Lastly, during the month of November the PPA Student

Association was part of a collaborative effort - Thanksgiving Food Drive for Blackburn Middle School - which was initiated by the College of Public Service (CPS) Dean's Office and involved the three schools and the student organizations in the college. The drive was a success with CPS students, faculty and staff packing approximately 500 boxes of food and collecting over \$1,600 which were donated to families at Blackburn Middle School.

We are very thankful to our members for volunteering part of their valuable time to make the PPA Student Association successful! We welcome new members throughout the year to continue support our goals.



# CONGRATULATIONS

## GRADUATES

The Public Policy and Administration Program is proud of the following graduates. We wish them good luck in all of their future endeavors!

### SPRING 2013

Daniel L. Curley Sr., Ph.D.  
Orlando Cepeda Kilcrease, Ph.D.  
Sam Mozee Jr., Ph.D.  
Courtney Donya' Bilbro, MPPA  
Elizabeth Blackshire, MPPA  
Kelvin Oneal Buck, MPPA  
Cedric T. Casher, MPPA  
Jammie Collins, MPPA  
Phoebe Nyatero Michieka, MPPA  
Lakeisha S. Nicholson, MPPA  
Marcia Renee' Rouser, MPPA  
Eileen Kella Schwartz, MPPA  
Miranda M. Short, MPPA  
Shawn Sims, MPPA  
Carlevia Danielle Smith, MPPA

### SUMMER 2013

Jerri Speyerer-Avery, Ph.D.

### FALL 2013

Lashonda Barnes, MPPA  
Sharon Gallagher Lee, MPPA  
Andrienne Myers, MPPA  
Ida Patterson, MPPA  
Jessica Sanders, MPPA  
Terri A. Smith, MPPA  
Derrick Townsend, MPPA  
Angela L. Travis, MPPA

## 2013-2014 EISENHOWER FELLOWS

Congratulations to our students who are recipients of Eisenhower fellowships: LaTonya Curley (Ph.D. student), Keesha Davis (Ph.D. student), Denita Jones (Ph.D. student) and Milous Young (MPPA student). Eisenhower Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) Fellowships provide HBCU students with opportunities to pursue transportation-related education preparing them to enter careers in transportation.

# STUDENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS



Alan Branson

Alan Branson, Ph.D. student, serves on the Board of Directors and chairs the Finance Committee for Opportunity Finance Network ([www.ofn.org](http://www.ofn.org)) - a national trade association of Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFIs). In January, he was appointed to the Advisory Board of the U.S. Financial Diaries Project, a research project that tracks more than 200 low- and moderate-income households over the course of a year, and collects highly detailed data on household financial activity.

At the CDFI annual conference held in Philadelphia (October 15-18), he was a panelist for a conference session entitled, "CDFI roles in Large-Scale Disaster Response", that examined the roles of CDFIs in the response to Hurricane Katrina and Super-storm Sandy. He also moderated a panel entitled, "Innovations in Credit Union and Community Partnerships", that described examples of credit union and community development projects in different states of the country such as Mississippi, Virginia, New York, and California. In September, he participated in a series of visits in Washington, DC with various CDFIs to make recommendations about the New Markets Tax Credit Program.



Chelsea Crittle

Chelsea Crittle, Ph.D. candidate, was appointed to the Southeastern Association of Area Agencies on Aging Board of Directors representing the State of Mississippi.

Jason Pope, Ph.D. student, oversees all sustainability projects at Hinds Community College. This entails energy conservation, recycling, and other sustainability initiatives. Since starting the energy program in November 2008, the college has saved over \$6M in energy costs and reduced consumption by over 29%.



Jason Pope

Edward Sivak, Ph.D. student, published a book chapter on workforce development trends following Hurricane Katrina in the book *Building Community Resilience Post Disaster*. He presented findings from his research on the same topic at the ABA Forum on Affordable Housing and Community Development Law in May. When not in class, Sivak is the Director of the Mississippi Economic Policy Center - an initiative of the Hope Enterprise Corporation. As director, Sivak manages the strategic direction, sustainability, research, training and advocacy of the center. During his tenure at MEPC, he has supervised the research and writing of numerous publications on the state budget, issues affecting working poor families and high cost lending. He also has educated the public through guest lectures and presentations and is frequently called upon by both local and national media to address policy issues affecting the state. His work has appeared in the *Wall Street Journal*, *MarketWatch*, the *Clarion Ledger*, *Mississippi Public Broadcasting* and the *Mississippi Business Journal*. He has also testified before Federal banking regulators on community development finance and numerous committees in the Mississippi Legislature on issues related to the state fiscal policy, poverty reduction, predatory lending reform and access to health coverage.



Edward Sivak

Linda M. Wheeler, Ph.D. student and Instructor of English, was elected to serve a two-year term on the Executive Board of the Mississippi Association for Developmental Education (MADE). She previously served as President of the Organization. As President, she was credited with bringing the MADE conference to Jackson State University for the first time in the Organization's 31 year history, increasing membership, and rebuilding the budget. The annual conference was held on November 7 and 8 on the campus of Ole Miss in Oxford, Ms.



Linda M. Wheeler

Ashlee Theodore, Ph.D. student, presented her research "Improving Professionalism in Public Service Delivery: Assessing the Performance of 311 Call Centers in Three U.S. Medium-Sized Cities" at the 2013 American Society for Public Administration Annual Conference, New Orleans, March 15-19, 2013.

Jonny Amasa-Annang, Ph.D. candidate, was a presenter of the discussion circle titled "Utilizing Public-Private Partnerships to Implement Successful Re-Entry Programs for Ex-Offenders" at the 2013 American Society for Public Administration Annual Conference held in New Orleans on March 15-19, 2013.

# RECOGNITIONS

## STUDENTS NOT PICTURED

Angeline Walton, MPPA student, was promoted from Administrative Assistant in Elementary & Early Childhood Education Department to Office Manager for Urban and Regional Planning Department.

Milous Young, MPPA student, was a co-author of the research titled “The Impact of Research on Public Policy: The Case of Individual Development Accounts,” which was presented at the 2013 Southeastern Conference of Public Administration, held in Charlotte, NC, on September 25-28, 2013.

Cassandra Hawkins-Wilson, Ph.D. student, was the co-author of the poster presentation titled “Faith Without Works Is Dead: The Influence of Religion on Healthy Eating Habits” which was displayed at the 2013 ASPA Conference. She has been working on the multi-digital textbook titled “Writing for Everyone.” She presented her research at the 2013 Mississippi Advisor’s Meeting and the Mississippi Association for Developmental Education.

Three of our MPPA students: Ryan Brown, Sherika Rimmer Harvey and Jeremy Armstrong, participated as panelists at the “Newly Elected African American Mayors from Central Mississippi Municipalities” Summit, held on September 26 at Jackson State University. The event was sponsored by the Mississippi Legislative Black Caucus in collaboration with the JSU Institute of Government.

## STUDENT RECEPTION CEREMONY

On April 26, 2013, the JSU School of Policy and Planning held a reception ceremony to celebrate the achievements of our students. There were four categories of recognitions:

### I. Students recognized for outstanding scholastic achievement for the 2012-2013 Academic Year:

- Jonny Amasa-Annang, Cassandra Hawkins-Wilson, Jason Pope, Edward Sivak and Ashlee Theodore for presenting at our regional and national professional conferences
- Chelsea Crittle, Tamara Jackson and Eileen Schwartz for being recipients of the 2012-2013 Dwight Eisenhower Fellowship
- Alan Branson and Keesha Davis for passing the Qualifying exam with distinction

### II. Students with the highest GPA (18 hours and above):

- Kelvin Buck, MPPA student
- Jonny Amasa-Annang, Chelsea Crittle and Jason Pope

### III. Students recognized for their extraordinary commitment to community service 2012-2013:

- Alan Branson, Jeff Horton and Orlando Kilcrease

### IV. Students recognized for exemplary advancement of student associations:

- Marcus McPherson, MPPA student and Ashlee Theodore, Ph.D. student

## COLLEGE OF PUBLIC SERVICE AWARDS CEREMONY

On May 2, 2013 our students and faculty were presented with several awards for their academic accomplishments by the College of Public Service: Sam Mozee (Ph.D. Student) and Kelvin Buck (MPPA student) were recognized as graduate students with the highest GPA. Miranda Short (MPPA student) was recognized as the most committed student to advancing student organizations. Orlando Kilcrease (Ph.D. student) and Jammie Collins (MPPA student) were recognized for their extraordinary commitment to community service. Eileen Schwartz (MPPA student) was presented with an award for outstanding internship. Dr. Gina Scutelnicu received the Individual External Funding Award.

# PUBLIC POLICY & ADMINISTRATION PROGRAM

## School of Policy and Planning

### College of Public Service

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### Faculty:

Dr. Johnny Gilleylen Sr., *Interim Director for Public Policy and Administration Program*

Dr. Gloria Billingsley, *Associate Professor*

Dr. Jae-Young Ko, *Associate Professor*

Professor Sylvester Murray, *Visiting Professor*

Dr. Bennett Odunsi, *Professor*

Dr. Chester Robinson, *Associate Professor*

Dr. Gina Scutelnicu, *Assistant Professor*

Dr. Ester Stokes, *Visiting Assistant Professor*

### Administrative Staff:

Carolyn Divinity, *Secretary*

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Dr. Gina Scutelnicu/ *Editor*

Dr. Jae-Young Ko/ *Co-editor*

Dr. Johnny Gilleylen

Professor Sylvester Murray

Dr. Chester Robinson

Carolyn Divinity

JSU Public Relations

