Announcements

College of Business Tailgate
Sponsored by Deloitte
Friday, October 21, 2022
11:00 a.m. ~ 4:00 p.m.

Dr. J. R. Smith Research Symposium
November 15 & 16, 2022
College of Business
8:00 a.m.

College of Business 50th Year Commemorative
Celebration Banquet
Friday, November 18, 2022
Jackson State University New Student Center
3rd Floor Ballroom A & B
5:30 p.m.

50th Commemorative Anniversary Website
www.jsums.edu/cob-50th-anniversary

Acknowledgments

Notable Alumni Panel Presenters
Deloitte
President Thomas K. Hudson, J.D.
Dr. Alisa Mosley, Provost and Senior Vice President
College of Business Administrators, Faculty,
Staff & Students
Jackson State University, College of Business

Presents

[NOTABLE ALUMNI]

PANEL PRESENTATIONS

50th Year

Commemorative Celebration

OCTOBER 20, 2022

PITTMAN LECTURE ROOM 134 | 2PM

~ Reception Immediately Following ~
Bankplus Atrium
~ Our Mission ~

The College of Business provides an undergraduate and graduate management education to a student body that is growing in diversity, by serving students from the southern region, expanding our national presence, and with growing emphasis serving international students. We focus on students and families who value the HBCU educational experience and on educating those from historically disadvantaged backgrounds. Our faculty, serving at the only major urban university in the State of Mississippi, actively engage in research and value excellence in the classroom as they prepare our students to provide creative business-centered solutions that promote economic and social advancement in local and national economies. The College produces ethical, technologically advanced, and globally aware business leaders.
Program

Program Guide
Ms. Madison Cathey, Senior, Accounting

Welcome
Ms. D’Mia Newell
Senior, Management

Occasion
Dr. Alisa Mosley
Provost and Senior Vice President

Special Remarks
Mr. Thomas K. Hudson, J.D.
President, Jackson State University

~ Introduction of Guest Panelist ~
Panel Discussion

Closing Remarks
Dr. Fidelis Ikem
Dean, College of Business

Adjournment

~ Reception Immediately Following ~
BankPlus Atrium
Notable Alumni Panel
Presenters
Eroncia Berry is a Class of 2016 Jackson State University College of Business Alumna. During her tenure at Jackson State University, Ms. Berry played on the JSU Women’s Soccer Team, she was a 2012 SWAC Conference Champion, and the 2016 SWAC Woman of the Year honoree. Ms. Berry was also a charter member of the Phi Alpha Delta Law Fraternity, a member of the Fannie Lou Hamer Pre-Law Society, and a member of Beta Gamma Sigma International Business Honor Society.

Ms. Berry earned her J.D. at the University of Baltimore School of Law, where she was a staff editor on the University of Baltimore Law Review and served on both the local and national executive boards for the Black Law Students Association.

Ms. Berry served as a GIVE Fellow (class of 2021) with Business Volunteers Maryland where she assisted non-profit organizations in Baltimore City. In 2022, Ms. Berry was honored as Top 40 Under 40 by the National Black Lawyers. In her legal practice, Ms. Berry handles corporate law matters, including mergers and acquisitions, corporate governance, commercial contracts and general business transactions.
Charles “Jerome” Brown, II is a native of Hattiesburg, Mississippi and a product of the Hattiesburg Public Schools System. Brown’s father Charles is a decorated Vietnam Veteran and retired from the WIN Job Center after 30 years of service and mother Christine is a retired school teacher with 32 years of service. Brown’s twin brother Jermaine is an administrator for the Hattiesburg Public Schools.

Brown graduated from Jackson State University with a Bachelor in Business Administration majoring in Marketing. Jerome furthered his studies at the University of Southern Mississippi in Management. He is also a graduate of the University of Mississippi’s School of Banking with the Mississippi Bankers Association. Brown also holds a certification from the True South Economic Development Course from the University of Southern Mississippi.

Brown is Executive Vice President, Chief Community Officer at The First Bank. At The First, Jerome oversees community development and corporate social responsibility activities of The First’s foot print. This position establishes, participates and maintains relationships with local governments, community based, charitable, and non-profit organizations. Brown develops and implements programs and products to ensure the Bank meets the needs of the community and maintains compliance regulations. Brown advises the Bank's Executive Management and Bank personnel of emerging community issues to ensure compliance directives are achieved. Brown further assists in ensuring department activities run smoothly and efficiently by providing leadership, training and supervision within the company.

In the community, Brown has been very active where he currently serves the following:

- Commissioner of the Forrest County Industrial Park Commission, Vice Chair
- Commissioner of the Civil Service Commission representing the City of Hattiesburg Ward One; Vice Chair
- Mississippi Council on Economic Education; Chairman
- Mississippi Economic Council; Board of Governors
- Fellowship of Christian Athletes; Vice Chair
- Hattiesburg Public School District Foundation; Board President
- Jackson State University, College of Business Advisory Board

His past boards include the following:

- Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, Minority Depository Institutions Advisory Council (Comptroller Appointee)
- University of Southern Mississippi Foundation
- Salvation Army Boys & Girls Club
- The USM Athletic Foundation
- Renaissance Community Loan Fund Corporation
Brown is Past President of the Jackson State University National Alumni Association, Hattiesburg Chapter and currently the Treasurer. Brown is member of the Jackson State University National Alumni Association Board of Directors serving as the Sergeant at Arms.

Brown is a member of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc., where he is Past President of the Mississippi State Caucus and Past President of the Hattiesburg Alumni Chapter and is past Southwestern Province Board Member for Mississippi.

In 2003 the Hattiesburg Jaycees named Brown as the Outstanding Young Citizen of the Year. In 2008 and 2012, Brown received the Area Development Partnership Top Service Award. In 2009, the *South Mississippi Business Journal* named Brown to the prestigious Top 10 under 40. Brown was also named the 2009 Alumni Brother of the Year from the Mississippi State Caucus of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity Inc. Brown is also a Graduate of Leadership Pine Belt and Leadership Mississippi. In 2015, Brown was given the Humanitarian Award by the University of Southern Mississippi National Panhellenic Council for his service as a fraternity advisor. This group also named him Advisor of the Year twice.

Brown is married to the former Celeste Thornton of Jackson, Mississippi and they have two children Cameren and Carmen and are members of West Point Baptist Church.
Ralph Clark serves as Trustmark’s Commercial Relationship Manager II and Vice President. Ralph is a graduate of Jackson State University’s College of Business where he received his Bachelor of Business Administration in Finance (2003) and received his Master of Business Administration from Mississippi College (2009), also with a concentration in finance. He has completed the University of Mississippi School of Banking in 2016 and the Louisiana State University Graduate School of Banking, graduating June 2022. Before joining Trustmark in 2008, Ralph worked as a branch and investment officer for AmSouth Bank (now Regions Financial Corp) and MetLife Financial Services.

While at Trustmark, Ralph has served the bank in several areas such as Financial Services & Wealth Management, Compliance, Public Services & Governmental Banking and now Commercial Banking – Metro Jackson, where he concentrates on companies with at least 10 million dollars in revenues. He has over 15 years of banking and investment related experience.

Ralph is a board member of Leadership Greater Jackson, Jobs for Mississippi Graduates, Southern Christian Services for Children and Youth, The Mississippi Early Childhood Investment Council and the 100 Black Men of Jackson. Ralph has been chosen as MS Business Journals Top 50 under 40 Business Leaders in 2016, MS Business Journal Leaders in Finance in 2019 and is an active participant with the MS Bankers Association and MS Young Bankers Association. Ralph is currently participating in the Mississippi Black Leadership Institute, through One Voice and the office of Congressman Bennie Thompson. In his spare time, he enjoys spending time with family and playing tennis with his daughter.
Clyde Coleman is a 1990 Graduate of Jackson State University School of Business and has Over 30 years’ experience in the food service industry. Clyde is the Senior Director of Logistics at Performance Food Group, where he has responsibilities for redistribution, carrier management, inbound freight management, 3rd party unloading services and outsourced logistics management. Prior to joining PFG, Clyde was employed at Sysco Corporation in Houston, TX. During his 10 years at Sysco, he held various positions throughout the organization.

Clyde is currently the President of JSUNAA Nashville and a member of JSUNAA Awards & Recognition Committee. In addition to this he is currently serving as a board member for Food Shippers of America, Tuskegee CBISD Advisory Board and 100 Black Men of Middle Tennessee. As an advisory board member for Tuskegee, he has assisted the Supply Chain program through mentorship, job placement and internships. As a member of Food Shippers of America, he has encouraged industry mentorship, minority participation and networking opportunities to expand your supply chain.

Clyde Coleman grew up in a family that believes in faith, community service and philanthropy. These qualities and characteristics guided Clyde throughout the years and were invaluable as a student at Jackson State University. In honor of his late parents and the values they instilled in their children Clyde established The Clifton and Shirley Coleman Endowed Scholarship at Jackson State University.

Performance Food Group is an industry leader and one of the largest food and foodservice distribution companies in North America with more than 150 locations in the U.S. and parts of Canada. PFG facilities, market and deliver quality food and related products to 300,000+ locations including independent and chain restaurants; businesses, schools and healthcare facilities; vending and office coffee service distributors; and big box retailers, theaters and convenience stores.
David E. Johnson, Sr., a native of Jackson, currently serves as Senior Vice President and Director of Community Development for BankPlus. He is responsible for managing, monitoring, and maintaining an ongoing Community Reinvestment Act/Community Development Program in Mississippi, Louisiana, Alabama, and Florida. David has served as a member of the bank’s Senior Management Committee since 2005. Hired by BankPlus in 2005, David is the first and only African American to report to the President & Chief Executive Officer of BankPlus. He is a financial services executive with over 43 years of banking experience. David previously worked for Deposit Guaranty National Bank, AmSouth, and Trustmark National Bank. David’s proudest professional accomplishment is receiving four consecutive “Outstanding” ratings from the FDIC over the past decade for the community development program he developed at BankPlus.

David is a product of the Jackson Public Schools and graduated with high honors from Murrah High School. He is a summa cum laude graduate of Hinds Community College and magna cum laude graduate of “Thee I Love,” Jackson State University. He is also a graduate of the Louisiana State University Graduate School of Banking, the American Institute of Banking, and the Millsaps College Center for Executive Development. He furthered his education by graduating from the National Community Development Lending School in Seattle, WA. He also attended the Cannon Financial Institute Trust School and completed coursework for certification as a certified retirement services professional at Pepperdine University in Malibu, CA and the University of Carolina at Charlotte, North Carolina.

In recognition of David’s involvement in and commitment to the community, he has been listed in Who’s Who Among African Americans since 1996. He was also listed as an Outstanding Young Man of America in 1984, 1989, 1996 and 1998, respectively. David is a proud graduate of Leadership Jackson and Leadership Mississippi. Robinson-Watson Book Company recognized David as a Public Service Honoree in 2008. The award was presented to David in recognition of his involvement in the community with various organizations, and his success in exercising unselfishness in making an impact on the general community and society. The Mississippi State Conference NAACP also recognized David with the Jerry Mauldin Corporate Award at its annual conference in Natchez, MS in 2009. In 2010, David was listed in the inaugural edition of Who’s Who in Black Mississippi, and Cambridge Who’s Who Among Executives, Professionals and Entrepreneurs. In 2012, David was presented the Medgar Evers Award by the Jackson Chapter NAACP for his contributions to community development. He was also named a Beacons Blaze Honoree for Economic Development by the Clinton Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. in 2012. In 2014, David was listed by the National Council of American Executives as a Top Ranked U.S. Executive. David was also presented the Distinguished Pacesetter Award by the Mississippi Minority Business Alliance. The Hinds County School District named David, “Parent of the Year” in 2016. He was also named “Parent of the Year” for Terry High School in 2005.
the same year. In 2019, he was recognized for his dedication and support of the Hinds County School District and given the Community Engagement Award.

David currently serves on the boards of the following organizations: Executive Committee, Chair-Elect, Mississippi Council on Economic Education; Jackson Asset Building Coalition; Bank On Jackson; FDIC Alliance for Economic Inclusion; Chair, Jackson State University College of Business Advisory Council; Vice Chair, Refill Jackson Initiative; Hinds County Public School District Foundation; Financial Literacy Chair, Mississippi Southern First Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction COGIC Urban Initiatives; Chair, Jessie Polly Beverley Scholarship Committee; and Mississippians for Fair Lending. He is also a member of the Leadership Jackson Alumni Association, Leadership Mississippi Alumni Association, and a charter member and Paul Harris Fellow of the Rotary Club of West Jackson.

Recognized as an expert in community development and financial literacy, David regularly travels the country to make presentations to banking executives, community development professionals and community organizations. Because of David’s passion for and commitment to empowering individuals to help themselves, he can often be found teaching financial literacy classes in churches, schools, and community centers throughout the state of Mississippi.

David and his wife, Doris, are the proud parents of two children: D’Ebonie and David Jr. David and his family attend Zion Chapel Church of God in Christ in Bolton, MS, where he serves as senior pastor. After the demise of his father in January 2016, he was appointed pastor on April 25th, 2016. He is passionate about preaching and teaching God’s word and is relentless in leading others to Christ.
With more than 15 years of experience in public finance and tax matters, Ashley Wicks leverages her experience and knowledge as an attorney and CPA to bring creative solutions to a variety of public finance and tax matters, ultimately working to grow and improve the vibrant communities her clients serve. In her extensive practice, Ashley primarily focuses on new markets tax credits, governmental and 501(c)(3) bond financing transactions and state and local tax matters.

Ashley has closed over $600+ million federal new markets tax credit (NMTC) transactions for transformative mixed-use developments, manufacturing facilities, community facilities, educational facilities, hospitals, and federally qualified health centers, among others. She has represented a variety of entities in these transactions, including the investors, the community development entities (CDE), the leverage lenders, the sources lenders, the guarantors, the sponsors and the project entities, as well as representing the CDEs and the projects in the unwind of the NMTC transactions. Many of these transactions are of varying complexity and involve historic rehabilitation tax credits and renewable energy tax credits. In executing these transactions, Ashley brings her attention to detail and proficiency across tax disciplines.

Ashley serves in a variety of roles for governmental and 501(c)(3) bond financing transactions, including bond counsel, company counsel, special tax counsel, underwriter counsel and disclosure counsel. She has experience representing new issuers and bond issuances involving newly authorized security. As bond counsel, Ashley has efficiently advised local housing authorities in connection with affordable housing transactions involving low-income housing tax credits and other issuers in the defeasance of bonds.

In addition, Ashley has acted as bond counsel to mass transit agencies across the country, including representing and advising the agencies in the exercise of early buy-out options and voluntary terminations of tax-advantaged leases, including payment undertaking. In a similar transaction, she also served as counsel to the payment undertaker in exercise of voluntary early terminations of a tax-advantaged lease.

Ashley has also represented and advised clients in planning, procuring and implementing state and local tax incentives. She has also worked alongside clients during audits before a host of state
agencies, including the Mississippi Department of Revenue’s Board of Review, the Mississippi Board of Tax Appeals and in numerous tax litigation matters.

An award-winning attorney, Ashley has been consistently recognized for her superior work and service by her clients and peers, including being honored by Best Lawyers in America® since 2020 and Super Lawyers® since 2012. She has been voted Best Tax Attorney in the Jackson Free Press’s Best of Jackson since 2018. Ashley’s work and civic involvement has also been honored by the American Bar Association, National Bar Association, Mississippi Business Journal and Visit Jackson, among others.

Ashley is a Fellow of the Leadership Council on Legal Diversity and American Bar Foundation, as well as a Scholar of the Mississippi Society of Certified Public Accountants. She is actively involved in a number of legal and civic organizations, including the American, National, Magnolia, and Capital Bar Associations, as well as the National Association of Bond Lawyers. Ashley is recognized as a thought leader in her practice and frequently speaks on tax and public finance topics at industry conferences and events across the country, including at annual Novogradac conferences.
Kevin T. Wilkerson is a native of Raymond, MS where he was reared by his parents and grandparents. He is a 2004 graduate of Raymond High School.

Kevin is a 2008 and 2009 graduate of Jackson State University ("JSU"). Kevin graduated in 2008 with a Bachelor of Business Administration - Accounting and earned his Master of Professional Accountancy in 2009. While at JSU Kevin was very active on campus and in the College of Business. During his tenure he was able achieve multiple internships through his participation in INROADS and the National Association of Black Accountants ("NABA"). Those internships included BancorpSouth (Jackson, MS), Ernst & Young (Houston, TX) and Deloitte (Houston, TX).

Kevin currently resides in Pearland, TX and continues to work at Deloitte where he is a Tax Managing Director in the Business Tax Services practice. Kevin serves a diverse group of clients in a variety of industries including oil and gas, renewable energy, and private equity amongst others. Kevin core focus is in federal income taxation primarily including the preparation and review of federal income tax forms for public and private companies in both the partnership and corporate areas. Additionally, Kevin assist his clients with tax planning and tax structuring, internal controls implementation and maintenance, IRS Audits, and other tax consulting matters. Kevin is a Certified Public Accountant, licensed in Mississippi and Texas. He is also a member of NABA’s Houston Professional Chapter, the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, and JSU Houston Area Alumni Association.

In his personal time Kevin loves spending time with his wife Tonya and their three kids, Karter, Tamia, and Kyree. Kevin enjoys visiting Mississippi to spend time with his parents, brother, and extended family and friends. He is also a High School and Collegiate Basketball official. Kevin is passionate about giving back and volunteering his time with the youth whether though coaching or general mentorship. Kevin and his family attends Wheeler Avenue Baptist Church while in Houston but maintains his membership at his home church of Pleasant Green Missionary Baptist Church (Clinton, MS).
Madison Cathey  
*Senior, Accounting*

Madison Cathey is the 77th Student Government Association President at Jackson State University. Born and raised in Hattiesburg, MS, Cathey graduated from Hattiesburg High School as a Mississippi Scholar with High Honors in 2019.

Cathey came to Jackson State University as a Provost Scholarship Recipient in the Fall of 2019. Since then, she has pursued student leadership holding roles such as Honors Council President of The Du Bois-Harvey Honors College, Vice-President of the JSU Accounting Society, Welcome Week Co-Director, and Miss Girl’s Coalition. An Honors Accounting student, Cathey has also received numerous professional opportunities in her field. She has completed two internships with PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, spent a summer in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania interning with Vanguard, attended the prestigious Thurgood Marshall College Fund Leadership Institute three times, and traveled the country representing Jackson State University in numerous executive partnership programs, including Deloitte, Walmart Inc, and Wake Forest University.

In her final year at JSU, Cathey is serving as 2022-2023 Welcome Week Director, a returning student ambassador for the Women's Council for Philanthropy, and a chairperson for the College of Business Dean's Student Advisory Board, in addition to her role as SGA President. Cathey will graduate in Spring of 2023 and intends to pursue her Masters of Accountancy in hopes of becoming a Certified Public Accountant. When not pursuing professional or academic achievements, Cathey enjoys spending time with her family and friends.

D’Mia Newell  
*Senior, Management*

D’Mia Newell, is an honors student at Jackson State University from Prince George's County, Maryland. She grew up in a military household, which allowed her the unique opportunity to move to different places. This nomadic lifestyle taught her to adapt to new environments as she never grew too comfortable staying in one place. Through her experiences, D’Mia was able to make the big move to Mississippi, 1,000 miles away from home, after graduating high school. D’Mia’s entrepreneurial spirit is primarily due to her comfort in being uncomfortable. She easily navigates uncertain situations to produce the desired outcome because of her level-head analytical skills, communication, and global outlook. These skills have allowed her achieve success in her real estate endeavors as the Founder of Cobalt Realty Group and her most recent project, a mobile software application, Experient. D’Mia’s passion for learning and continuous development has propelled her further than she could have ever imagine and have allowed her to inspire people around her.

At an early age, D’Mia learned the importance of leadership and community service as she watched her parents serve in Afghanistan and then come home and serve their community. From their example she was encouraged to get involved in the community and give back in whatever way possible. D’Mia has hosted food drives, clothing drives, and community fundraisers. She is currently working on building a panel of college students to talk to high school students in Jackson, Mississippi, about their college experience. D’Mia’s passion is service and has plans to form a nonprofit, EMPWRUS, to educate and empower the Black community on various topics, including financial literacy, job skills workshops, resume writing, etc. Her aim to inspire change worldwide and leave a legacy through education and empowerment.