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Executive Summary 2015-2016

Teaching

In the area of teaching, the College of Liberal Arts (COLA) has fully embraced the call in the 21st century to be innovative educators. The faculty have utilized various methods to actively engage students with content knowledge and means of interpreting their environment with critical thought, including technology, para-curriculum activities, collaborations, and mentoring. Such methods have included offering both online classes, and full degree programs online. Faculty use Blackboard, iPads, Mondopads, e-books, film and audiovisual materials in their classroom. They also enhance the learning process with guest speakers on campus as well as partnerships with local and national community entities including the pre-law camp presented with area schools and the collaboration with university's abroad that allowed students to be active participants in the teaching process. Additional evidence of faculty's employment of creative teaching methods include the significance placed on mentoring and advising. Each department worked to improve its advising system and made mentoring students a critical part of their program.

Research

The purpose of engagement in research and creative work is to achieve further depth into a subject matter and share it with colleagues, students, and others. By all objective standards, the COLA had an impressive record this past academic year. Depending how one classifies the nature of research, juried performance and creativity, faculty in the College produced some 51 peer-reviewed articles, engaged in 41 presentations, performances/creative exhibits at professional conferences, which combined with presentations elsewhere, such as the campuses totaled 94, with 15 edited or sole authored books, along with three book chapters. If this record is proportionately divided among the 54 tenured and tenure-track faculty who engage in scholarly work mainly to meet the bar for promotion and tenure, then the COLA met its expectations.

Service

Faculty service has been extensive at all levels of the University and beyond. The goal is to enhance the College's integration of the arts, humanities, and social and behavioral sciences in the surrounding community, city, region, nation, and beyond in public outreach efforts. Faculty are assigned to various departmental committees, averaging three (3) or more assignments per faculty member. Assignments include but are not limited to Promotion and Tenure, Search, Undergraduate Advisory, Graduate Advisory, Curriculum Review, Awards, Forum, Recruitment, Retention, Festival, Honor Societies, Advisement, Departmental Examination, and Faculty Evaluation committees. Each department also has Faculty Senate representatives, and the College is represented in the leadership team of the Staff Senate. Because of the wide range of talent and knowledge, Liberal Arts faculty often serve on search, review, thesis, project, and dissertation committees in other departments and in other colleges of the University. In addition, the departments in the COLA are well represented on campus-wide committees, including each department's representatives on Assessment, Technology, and Accreditation teams. There are also a number of community entities that benefit from the service hours donated by COLA faculty.

Sustainability

Forty-six (46) grant applications were submitted, totaling \$7,039,356. Forty percent (40%) of these grants were funded, totaling \$1,055,579. Funding sources were governmental agencies, foundations and intramural support, which facilitated research related to the Humanities and the social/behavioral sciences. Several intramural grants were awarded to support travel for faculty and students in the College. Development funds totaled \$121,500. The College was also successful in fulfilling its service mission to the university community and the general public.

New and Special Initiatives

New and special initiatives emanate from two major goals: 1) preparing our students for future careers and 2) providing them with the foundational academic skills along with the values they will need to live full and meaningful lives as human beings. These goals are reflected in various departmental proposals for new initiatives, including: 1) increase enrollment and maintain a high retention rate; 2) careful and committed advising and teaching with use of technology; 3) grantsmanship; 4) fund raising 5) international experiences; 6) national and international conferences; 7) emphasis on data collection and analysis, and the creation of a faculty think-tank; and 8) professorial lecture at the beginning of each academic year. Fall 2016, the College will embark on feasibility studies for a PhD program in Criminal Justice and Music, a MA program in Psychology, and an MFA in Graphic Design, beyond the planned PhD program in English and Modern Foreign Languages.

Awards and Special Recognition

COLA continues to be the Foundation of Excellence with the recognition of stellar contributions by faculty and staff that propel COLA into local and national spotlights. The university-wide leadership appointments, as well as accolades bestowed upon our Liberal Arts family, are examples of our unique ability to affect just about every other discipline in the academy. The distinctions highlighted in our report reflect scholarly contributions, as well as artistic prominence, that anchor not only the COLA, but the entire university.

Enrollment: Recruitment, Retention/Marketing Strategies

COLA's record of excellence is also evident in enrollment, marketing strategies, retention, graduation rates, and student placement. Fall enrollment increased more than 4%, and our overall retention rate increased 5%. Increased rates may be attributed to marketing strategies, such as brochures, letters, social media, exhibits, school visits, Tiger Day at elementary schools, and targeted on-campus activities, such as workshops, summer camps, enrichment programs, and college day, that promote student involvement.

Retention, Graduation, and Placement

The Division of Institutional Research estimates that the retention rate for the COLA was 74.6%. However, adjusting for the departure of the Department of Mass Communication, our retention rate is 92.5%, even with up to 1,000 students reporting experiencing academic, attendance, or personal problems that affect their ability to comply with university policies. Spring 2016, the COLA conferred 288 degrees, an increase of 2.12%. With only 17% of graduates being placed, or reported, the COLA has room for improvement. However, graduates are being placed in law schools, MA and PhD programs, and in professional fields, such as film and theater. Tracking students after graduation is difficult because there is no formal method in place to track graduates. The College plans to incorporate the Exit Interview process as well as coordinate our efforts with other campus areas (Placement, Alumni Affairs and the Registrar's Office).

Program Quality/Enhancements/Lesson Learned

The COLA has designed enhancements to increase program quality, including re-accreditation affirmation, departmental self-studies, scholarly peer review work, graduate program reviews, and mandated curricular revisions. Third year reviews are taken seriously, and faculty who perform poorly are warned about the likelihood of failure to be promoted or tenured, or both. In addition, although every department completed its curriculum revisions in 2013-2014, chairs and faculty understand that curriculum reviews are ongoing. As a result, more emphasis is being placed on sharpening the teaching of foundation skills and their application inside and outside the classroom, including, for example, interdisciplinary courses utilizing interdisciplinary approaches and internationalized content. Our renewed and explicit emphasis on grantmanship is designed to strengthen the quality of all programs in the College through provision of further resources for professional development and fulfillment of the criteria for promotion and tenure.

Centers in the College of Liberal Arts

Our six Centers are eager to provide opportunities to all students and help the surrounding community through targeted activities.

Margaret Walker Center (MWC)

Both an archive and museum, the MWC is dedicated to the preservation, interpretation, and dissemination of African-American history and culture. Founded by Margaret Walker in 1968, the Center seeks to honor her academic and artistic legacy by expanding and promoting its manuscript holdings and oral history collections, interpreting African-American history and culture through its museum and exhibits, coordinating public programs on campus and throughout the community, preserving historic structures central to the African-American experience, and advocating Black Studies at JSU.

Fannie Lou Hamer Institute @ COFO (Hamer@COFO)

The mission of Hamer@COFO is to empower humanity through education, intergenerational dialogue, and cultural awareness. It seeks to advocate for human rights and social justice through public programming, exhibitions, and community outreach. From October 1, 2015, to March 31, 2016, over 1,978 students, faculty, staff, and community members and leaders attended the Institute for Social Justice and Race Relations programs. It collaborates closely with community partners and institutions in addition to other units at JSU. The Institute is funded by Title III, currently receiving \$92,785 for 2015-2016, and one of its major goals is to increase the number of activities and improve the quality of its programs.

Gallery 1

The mission at Gallery1 is to provide students, faculty, staff and the community with access to Fine Arts by creating programs and exhibitions to increase participation in Art related activities. The goal is to expose students to the Arts through multidisciplinary approach. Gallery1 works with various organizations at JSU such as COFO, Kids Kollege, and Upward Bound. Community member and student visits from January 2016-April 2016 has increased by 160%. In 2014 there were 316 visitors; in 2015-2016, there were 823. This includes first time visitors, returning customers, and students (research and volunteers). The end result is gaining a higher level of experience and understanding of all mediums of Arts. The gallery is working to seek additional funding.

Interdisciplinary Alcohol/Drug Studies Center

The Center works to provide programs that yield substantial advances in education and prevention on all facets of drug abuse. The Center through its many programs has helped to strengthen student retention and reduce the adverse consequences of drug abuse on our college campus by implementing strategies that address these burdens. Recognizing the scarcity of resources the Center has been successful in being one of the oldest self-sustaining programs on the JSU campus. The ultimate aim of the Center's mission is to create programs that reduce consequences associated with drug use, abuse and dependence among our students that could possible prevent them from completing their college degree.

Psychological Services

In the Department of Psychology, the Applied Psychological Services Clinic (APSC) serves as an in-house clinical training facility for our Clinical Psychology doctoral students. The mission of the APSC is to provide clinical training and experiences to doctoral students in rendering psychological services to JSU students, faculty and staff and to persons in the Jackson community. The APSC received more than 300 referrals to provide psychological services of which approximately 250 clients received services. It is estimated that the market value of services to the JSU and the local community is \$42, 235.00.

The Richard Wright Center for Writing, Rhetoric, and Research (RWC)

The RWC met with more than 12% of the total JSU student population in face-to-face tutorials with only 2 full-time staff members, 2 graduate assistants, and 7 undergraduate volunteer peer tutors. The RWC also offered 88 roundtables and workshops, 28 of which were requested by faculty; held 18 peer tutor training sessions for Honors students; participated in 7 information fairs and orientations; provided summer tutoring programs for the Department of Chemistry and for the College of Undergraduate Studies Summer Bridge program; posted blogs on academic writing and writing pedagogy for faculty; and developed a writing support group. The director and coordinator also presented their research on campus and at 4 state, national, and international conferences; submitted 3 grant proposals (not funded) and 2 course proposals to work towards building a sustainable writing, speaking, and research center to meet the needs of JSU as a Research 1 university.

DIVISION OF ACADEMIC AND STUDENT AFFAIRS

ACADEMIC YEAR 2015-2016: ANNUAL REPORT

Mario J. Azevedo, Dean

David Akombo, Department of Music
Dexter Brookins, Department of Military Science
Pamela Banks, Department of Psychology
Rico Chapman, Department of History and Philosophy
Mark Henderson, Department of Speech Communication and Theater
Rickey Hill, Department of Political Science
Preselfannie McDaniels, Department of English and Modern Foreign Languages
Etta Morgan, Criminal Justice and Sociology
Jimmy Mumford, Department of Art
Kathi Griffin, Richard Wright Center
Robert Lockett, Margaret Walker Center
Earnestine McNeal-Brown, Drug and Alcohol Studies Center
Shonda McCarthy, Gallery 1
Keith McMillian, Fannie Lou Hammer Institute/COFO
Cheryl Moreland, Applied Psychological Services Clinic

NAME OF UNIT: COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS

MISSION:

The mission of the College of Liberal Arts is to nurture the mind and spirit of its graduate and undergraduate students and to develop and refine students' spoken, written, and analytical skills, their artistic and creative talents, and their knowledge of the humanities and the social and behavioral sciences, and the ways in which technology can be used to advance their capacity to understand world events, successfully compete globally, and contribute to improvements in the human conditions.

INTRODUCTIONS:

To set the annual report in the proper and understandable context, included in the following table is the number of tenured and tenure-track faculty and their rank as well as the total number of classroom full-time, part-time instructors, clinical, visiting, and all adjunct faculty in Spring 2016. The figures indicate that 71 percent of the faculty were part-time (adjunct or instructors) and only 39 percent tenured or tenure-track. Given that the Centers and Institutes do not fit the departmental model and expectations, they are discussed separately in the category of **OTHER** at the end of the document.

COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS: TENURED AND TENURE-TRACK FACULTY

Table 1: Spring 2016

DEPARTMENT	# FULL-TIME FACULTY	# TENURED	#TENURE-TRACK	PROFESSOR	ASSOCIATE	ASSISTANT
Art	7	5	1	1	**3	2
*Criminal Justice and Sociology	11	4	1	2	2	2
*English and MFL	32	9	4	1	5	4
*History and Philosophy	15	7	0	**2	4	3
Military Science	7	NA	NA	0	0	0
*Music	16	6	1	1	5	1
*Political Science	8	**3	2	3	0	3
*Psychology	12	5	2	1	2	6
*Speech Communication and Theatre	9	3	1	0	**2	3
TOTAL	117	42	12	11	19	24

*Clinical and Visiting Instructor(s)/Professor(s) included in faculty number but not in the rank category.

**Fall Faculty promotion and tenure outcomes added.

This report is based on the documents provided by each department Chair, analyzed, and discussed together as a college. What follows is an aggregated list of accomplishments, pointing to the most salient among many during academic year 2015-2016. Some departments distinguished themselves more than others in certain important indices, a point that is made in the analysis attached to each category provided by Academic Affairs. However, the report is not designed to belittle certain units but to show the strengths and the shortcomings of the college as it works together under a leadership that appears to be enlightened and not averted to change, committed, and ready to embrace new ideas and programs advocated by their faculty who are often knowledgeable of what is occurring at other colleges of liberal arts in the state and the nation, always keeping in mind the mission of the University. The goal of the College of Liberal Arts is to keep focus on its mission of educating the students not just for careers but also for their full self-realization and fulfillment as human beings and help the University strive to live up to its designation by the Carnegie Foundation as a Higher Research Activity institution.

Major Goals: The College of Liberal Arts, which we call the Foundation of Excellence, has two overarching goals, which are derived from the mission presented above, and are ultimately embedded in the University mission. One is training our students for a successful and rewarding career, and the other is to prepare them to become fully developed human beings, who, while assuming full responsibilities for their actions as national and global citizens, respect the human rights of others. As the foundation of excellence, the College has upheld and nurtured seven goals, namely:

1. **Providing Foundational Skills:** Strengthening the foundational skills of the students we serve, particularly critical thinking, effective oral and written communication, reading with comprehension, and mastery of advanced research.
2. **Increasing the Student Population:** Recruiting and enrolling the best students, while adhering to its mission of serving underprivileged and unrepresented groups, with the aim of raising the number of its student population by 5-7 percent each year, improving retention rates, facilitating timely graduation, and enhancing successful placement.
3. **Applying Technology in Liberal Arts Education:** Infusing new technology into the classroom, reflected in technology-driven classroom delivery that engages students and takes advantage of online offerings, serving both the traditional and non-traditional student.
4. **Engaging in Collaborative Initiatives:** Seeking opportunities for interdisciplinary and intercollegiate offerings that provide relevance to its disciplines through improved curricula and meaningful partnerships outlined in the roadmap and the list of priorities submitted to the University in April 2016.
5. **Increasing Grantsmanship Output:** growing the number of the College's grant proposals to enhance sustainability of its programs strengthened by collaborative efforts both from within and outside the college and providing, through close collaboration with the Division of Institutional Development, further opportunities to our students and faculty in the form of endowed scholarships and chairs.
6. **Fostering Global Citizenship:** Increasing student international and intercultural experiences by remaining actively engaged in the *Passport to the World* program and enacting its own initiatives to strengthen learning and student better understanding of the world.
7. **Redefining Liberal Arts Education:** Through initiatives derived from our own experiences and those of similar colleges in the region and the nation help redefine the liberal arts, thus enhancing the relevance of the programs we offer.

The following 2015-2016 annual report provides a glimpse of how the College of Liberal Arts has achieved these goals and objectives, the obstacles it may have encountered along the way, and how the faculty, the administrators, the staff, and the students plan to resolve them through initiatives that will enhance its growth, relevance, and survival.

I. MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS

TEACHING

In the area of teaching, the College of Liberal Arts has fully embraced the call in the 21st century to be innovative educators, moving beyond simply the notes-and-lecture style of teaching. Several departments are responsible for teaching core courses for the University which results in encountering large numbers of students and full teaching loads; yet, they have sought and found creative approaches to meeting such challenges. The faculty have utilized various methods to actively engage students with content knowledge and means of interpreting their environment with critical thought, including technology, para-curriculum activities, collaborations, and mentoring.

Each department used technology in the classroom, with most offering online classes as part of their program. The Department of English and Modern Foreign Languages, for instance, offered 62 sections of online classes, and the Department of Psychology, while teaching 2,116 students, afforded them the opportunity to take hybrid classes and online courses. The Department of History and Philosophy has gone even further than offering a few classes with the implementation of a full MA degree program online. The Department of Criminal Justice and Sociology has been making preparations to offer an undergraduate degree program fully online beginning Fall 2016. Others will follow in the years to come.

Technology played a significant part in the instructional process in other classes as well. The faculty overwhelmingly used Blackboard, iPads, and Mondopads, along with PowerPoint presentations that enliven the classroom experience. History and Philosophy, among others, employed film and audio-visual material exceedingly. Psychology integrated a Virtual Child program in the Developmental Psychology class. Additionally, CLA faculty developed their own virtual material, such as the Department of Art, which has a faculty member who created instructional videos as teaching tools for his classes. English not only used e-books for the composition classes, but it also utilized a faculty-developed e-book for the American literature class. Criminal Justice and Sociology exposed its students to presentations by many officials in law enforcement, including the Director of the prison system in the State of Mississippi.

Understanding that technology is a valuable and exciting part of the educational process, but not the only part, CLA faculty also incorporated para-curricular activities to enhance learning. History and Philosophy challenged their students with prominent and controversial speakers such as Delay De La Beckwith (son of Byron De La Beckwith) and the daughters of Malcolm X and Medgar Evers. Art exposed its students and faculty to African art through an open public lecture by well-known artist Dr. Lawal of the Virginia Commonwealth University. Also within the Department of Art, faculty members, along with their students, worked with local schools to develop projects that increased the knowledge of school children and incorporated JSU students into learning experiences beyond their own classrooms. So did the Department of Political Science, which, working in tandem with the public school system, held a pre-law camp that brought to the campus several elementary and high school students interested in pursuing a career in law and law enforcement.

The partnerships with local schools are important, as are collaborations with other entities. CLA faculty recognized this fact and worked to form partnerships with other departments, schools, and organizations. The Department of Music, for instance, established a partnership with The University of Blue Fields Indian and Caribbean University in Nicaragua that allowed students to be active participants in the teaching process. This partnership has yielded opportunities for future cooperation with the Departments of Criminal Justice and Sociology and English and Modern Foreign Languages. Further collaborations within English and Modern Foreign Languages in the area of teaching included the coordination by one faculty member of a web conference with a class at Spelman College in Atlanta, GA, and well-known author Daniel Black in a discussion of his novel *Perfect Peace* as well as the partnership with China, which resulted in the Confucius Institute and the Ph.D. in English for Fall 2016., both scheduled for implementation in Fall 2016.

Finally, mentoring and advising is an essential element in the College of Liberal Arts. Each department worked to improve its advising system and made mentoring students a critical part of their program. For instance, several Psychology faculty members served as mentors in the *First in the World* Grant Project at Jackson State University and the Daniel Hale William Scholars program. In Art, faculty mentored students in research projects in New York, in the Center for Undergraduate Research program, and in study abroad experiences. The Fannie Lu Hamer Institute/COFO, collaborating with the Margaret Alexander Center, and the History Department provided hundreds of students with several opportunities to visit historical sites in Mississippi, including the Delta Mule Train Museum Project, the Medgar Evers home, and the Civil Rights Museums been planned in the state, live vicariously the lives of eras past, and understand what the struggle for civil rights meant for both black and white Mississippians.

While teaching and advising are robust in the College of Liberal Arts, there is always room for improvement. With only 39 percent of faculty either tenured or tenure-track, and many assigned heavy teaching loads, the impetus for research is not always recognized. Surely, this affects teaching because faculty are not always able to engage in sustained research and apply the outcomes of the exercise in the classroom. To this end, the College of Liberal Arts has worked and continues to impress upon faculty, through workshops and professional development opportunities, the importance of remaining current in their fields and bringing such knowledge to their classes.

The College has sought to improve in other areas as well. Courses and programs are now constantly subjected to review and self-study to discover ways in which they can be better delivered. Music, for example, in consultation with other music departments across certain areas of the country, has researched methods for eliminating waste in course offerings by consolidating classes. The efforts of the Department of Music are but one example of the commitment departments have made to be more effective in the area of teaching. Pursuing ways to utilize technology in classrooms that are not necessarily fitted for technology and designing new courses for the curriculum are other illustrations.

Because we encounter almost every student in the classroom, we, in the College of Liberal Arts, take our roles as teachers and mentors seriously, striving through the use of technology, para-curricular activities, collaboration, and mentoring, to deliver knowledge efficiently, effectively, and creatively to

21st century global thinkers. Throughout the College and Chairs' meetings, the faculty and the staff are reminded that the College of Liberal Arts is the foundation of excellence and, as the Dean often says, it is "the first line of defense against ignorance, racism, religious intolerance, and social injustice," focusing on two overarching goals: preparing its students not only to successfully pursue a career but also to acquire and muster the necessary skills both inside and outside the classroom, which they will need to be able to compete and function intellectually, academically, and as practically human beings—critical thinking, reading with comprehension, communicating effectively, good writing, and accomplished researchers, imbued with a strong sense of responsibility and respect for the rights of others. These goals have been further emphasized in the College as an outcome of the *College Day*, which stressed the need for skills but also the value of a liberal arts education, which starts in the classroom, and through the upcoming national conference on "(Re)Defining Liberal Arts Education in the 21stCentury," scheduled for October 6-8, 2016.

The centers continue to work in collaboration with departments to serve students from across the University. For example, the Alcohol/Drug Studies Center worked in collaboration with the Department of Criminal Justice and Sociology to offer ongoing workshops and training sessions that can be used towards state certifications. Some of the workshops include: Ethics 101, Grant Proposal Writing 101, Handling Disruptive Clients, Alcohol 101, QPR Training, HIV 101, and Life Skills Training. Gallery1 provided opportunities for the Department of Art and students in Speech Communication and Theater to listen to orators, artists, and painters with the aim of enriching their student experiences. In addition to hosting multiple events and exhibits related to civil rights, the Margaret Walker Center worked in collaboration with libraries during the Margaret Walker Alexander's centennial. The Richard Wright Center (RWC) continued to train Honors students from all colleges to work as peer tutors and earn community service hours, and employed graduate assistants from the College of Education and Human Development as well as the College of Liberal Arts. The Center also offered workshops and roundtables to support undergraduate and graduate students across the University in their writing and research projects.

We might briefly highlight here some of the unique and innovative uses of technology in the classroom to impact student learning employed by some faculty in the College from which others might get inspiration not only to resolve the problems resulting from students' misunderstanding of the grading system in the classroom but also on how to exert a real impact on student learning in the classroom. Two faculty among others seem to stand out about how to maximize the use of advanced technology and become better instructors. We present in the next few paragraphs the teaching style of Dr. Leniece T. Smith, Assistant Professor in the Department of Political Science, and Dr. Everett Neasman, Associate Professor in the Department of English and Modern Foreign Languages, who were asked to share with us how they approach the classroom. Both are known as excellent instructors in the College of Liberal Arts for whose classes students register with great anticipation.

Thus Dr. Leniece T.-Smith informs us about a few techniques she uses in her political science classes to gather student attention and allow students how to evaluate their own performance throughout the semester:

I use a grading app called Teacher Aid Pro that allows me to track attendance and grades, and regularly update students on their progress. More interestingly, I utilize an app that allows my

students to keep a digital portfolio to track and comment on a presidential candidate and the election. Students become much more politically attentive and interested.

Dr. Neasman thus tells his story and approach to technology, which he used both at JSU and when he was asked by JSU to visit Nantong University in China in 2013:

In June 2013, as an academic ambassador of Jackson State University, I traveled to China where I was received by Dr. Wu Wenquan, Dean of Liberal Arts at Nantong University (NU). While at NU, I engaged NU's English faculty and staff in the planning of future academic collaborations between NU and JSU. Particularly discussed was NU's participation in a global learning partnership with the JSU Department of English & MFL and its recently launched cyber Shakespeare project.

At present, Dr. Neasman and colleagues in the English and Modern Foreign Languages at JSU are evaluating the effectiveness of students to be instructors of English, with skills that serve regional, national, and international learning needs. To accomplish this task and create a sense of history and understanding of the present in their students and generate heightened interest in their classroom, they somehow manage to combine English, history, psychology, music, statistics through the use of Qualtrics, and culture studies. Dr. Neasman writes that he and his colleagues

... first created a cyber-based evolution of William Shakespeare's *The Tragedy of Macbeth* that focuses the Macbeth character, American President Richard M. Nixon, and Chinese Chairman Mao Zedong. This project allowed students to use technology to access both current and historical views concerning America's global past, present, and future and to evaluate the administrations of these leaders by way of in-class iPad lectures in both English and Chinese. With Chinese exchange students in attendance, my Shakespeare courses employ audio and visual projection and INNOVATE presentations in JSU's Sampson Library to make for lively learning-based discussions and writing assignments as well as promote open-minded debates on global politics, religion, and societies without negative stigmas.

He then adds a paragraph about his teaching style, which is skillfully interspersed with unique approaches and technology:

... with the help and guidance of Dr. Yin (JSU-Dept of Education), JSU students in both the Department of English and MFL and the Department of Psychology have worked diligently to make the Summer Instructional Sessions for the China Delegation (Nantong U, Minzu U, and Beijing U) successful. These efforts use in class/computer based imagery of Shanghai Opera and the Shanghai Shakespeare Festival to bridge cultural gaps among our students. These efforts have also allowed me to serve on these committees and as a cyber-reader for a Nantong University doctoral student (in the JSU Education program). Lastly, both JSU and Nantong University students participated in the ongoing Qualtrics Research Study by Dr. Everett G. Neasman and Dr. Taunjah P. Bell. "*William Shakespeare's Timon of Athens: Gift-Giving and Reciprocity among Jackson State University students—A Pilot Study*" *The Jackson State University Researcher: An Interdisciplinary Journal* (Spring 2014). This study has entered its second and third phases, with survey populations at Jackson State and Nantong Universities. (*Qualtrics* is a leading online survey tool provider used by many universities and large enterprises to gather feedback online. It is a powerful tool with many advanced options and complements a wider variety of other online survey tools--from free, open source solutions to well known brands to customer experience management systems.)

Similar innovations are going on in the classrooms of the College of Liberal Arts, and we hope that many of our faculty will continue to master state-of-the-art approaches to revolutionize teaching at Jackson State University.

RESEARCH/SCHOLARLY CREATIVITY

In colleges and schools, scholarly work is judged on the basis of its scope or quantity, its quality, and its impact in the classroom, and whether the scholar is tenured or tenure-track, instructor, or adjunct faculty, which, in this case, includes also clinical and visiting professors. Using these criteria as a yard stick for the evaluation of the college scholarly performance as a whole, the College of Liberal Arts comes out looking extremely well for academic year 2015-2106.

BOOKS:

A focus on the work of tenured and tenure-track faculty reveals that the College of Liberal Arts published seven books (plus two from a non – tenure track faculty), 45 peer-reviewed articles, as shown in the table below, 15 book chapters published by reputable academic and commercial presses, one encyclopedia entry, 91 professional presentations, over 14 performances/exhibits or creative activities, and three book reviews in refereed journals. Also worth noting are 11 forthcoming articles and books, and at least six presentations that involved faculty and students, with several faculty leading their students to conferences.

PUBLICATIONS:

Below is a table that chronicles the books (in red) and articles published by faculty in the College of Liberal Arts in 2015-2016.

Table 3: College of Liberal Arts Peer-Reviewed Scholarly Work

Faculty	Book, Article, Book Chapter	Publisher
Bruce, Marino et al.	"Research in Race and Ethnic Relations," <i>Race in the Age of Obama</i>	Bingley, UK: Emerald Group, 2016
Bruce, Marino et al.	"Research in Race and Ethnic Relations," <i>Inequality, Crime and Health</i>	Bingley, UK: Emerald Group, 2016
Chukwuma&McDaniels (eds.)	<i>Meeting Points in Black/Africana Women's Literature</i>	Trenton, NJ: Africa World Press, 2016
Neasman, Everett	<i>Take My Coxcomb: Shakespeare's Clown-Servants</i>	London: ABE Books Ltd. (Tower Books)
Abdur-Rashied, Sakinah	"Commodification of Women," in Chukwuma&McDaniels	Trenton, NJ: Africa World Press, 2016
Chukwuma, Helen	"Gendered Spaces" in Toni Morrison's <i>Jazz</i> ," Chukwuma&McDaniels	Trenton, NJ: Africa World Press, 2016
Chukwuma, Helen	"Religion and Spirit...in Jubilee" in Chukwuma &McDaniels	Trenton, NJ: Africa World Press, 2016
Crump, Helen	"I would Like one Single line of Ancestry," in Chukwuma&McDaniels	Trenton, NJ: Africa World Press, 2016
Head, N. Darby	"Family Affair: The Familial Element" in Chukwuma&McDaniels	Trenton, NJ: Africa World Press, 2016
McDaniels, Preselfannie	"Mother Work in Toni Morrison's <i>Song</i> ," in Chukwuma&McDaniels	Trenton, NJ: Africa World Press, 2016

McDaniels, Preselfannie	"Questions of Quality and Class," in Jervette Ward (ed.)	New Brunswick, NJ: Rutgers Univ. Press
McInnis, C. Leigh	"Who or What Does <i>The Help</i> ? Hollywood," in Ishmael Reed (ed.)	Chicago: Third World Press, 2015-2016
Pizzetta, Candis	"Exploring Regional Identity in Arkansas"	<i>Elder Mountain</i> 7 (2016): 141-158
Pizzetta, Candis	"Circumstantial Evidence: Elusive Truth in Allan Poe's 'Mystery of Marie Rogêt'"	<i>POMPA</i> , 49.1 (2015): 73-86
Smith-Spears, RaShell	"'Almost All Our Women are Warriors,'" In Chukwuma &McDaniels (eds.)	Trenton, NJ: Africa World Press, 2016
McInnis, C. Leigh	"Water Walkers." <i>Down to the Dark River</i> ," in P. Kolin et al.	Hammond: Louisiana Literature Press, 2015-2016
McInnis, C. Leigh	"COMBDA Engages in Effective Kingdom Building Through Continuous Education"	<i>The Christian Education Informer: A Journal of Christian Education</i> 68.2 (Winter: 2016)
Bernhardt, Mark	"A Hillbilly, A Bum, and An Old Woman Meet A Screwball Redhead" in W. Lenz (ed.)	New York: McFarland, 2017 (forthcoming).
Bernhardt, Mark	"'Boys Are Running Off To The Wars By Scores': Promoting Masculinity And Conquest"	<i>American Journalism</i> , Spring 2016 (Forthcoming)
Chapman, Rico	<i>Student Resistance to Apartheid at the University of Fort Hare</i>	Lexington Books, 2016
Chapman, Rico	"Diversifying Preservation in Mississippi"	<i>The Journal of the Mississippi Heritage Trust</i> , Winter 2016, 46
Roopnarine, Lomarsh	<i>Legacy of Slavery and Indentured Labor Historical and Contemporary Issues in Suriname</i>	New Delhi: Publisher Manohar
Azevedo, Mario J.	"Historical Perspectives on Health and Health Systems in Africa: the Struggle for Survival (2 volumes)	Palgrave-MacMillan, 2016
Lockett, Robert	<i>Joe T. Patterson And The White South's Dilemma: Evolving Resistance To Black Advancement</i>	University of Mississippi Press. 2016
Roopnarine, Lomarsh	"The Minority Experience-Muslim Faith And Work Ethic In The United States Virgin Islands"	<i>Journal Of Muslim Minority Affairs</i> Volume 36 Number 1, March 2016
Bernhardt, Mark	"Klansville U.S.A., Directed by Callie T. Wiser"	<i>Journal of American History</i> , 12/2015, Volume 102, 3
Roopnarine, Lomarsh	<i>Indian Indenture in the Danish West Indies</i>	Palgrave-Macmillan, 2016
Akombo, David	<i>Unity of Music and Dance in Society Worldwide</i>	Jefferson, North Carolina: McFarland 2016

Akombo, D.O.	<i>Uwenzi: The Pan-African Factor, A 21st-Century View</i>	Bloomington: Authorhouse Publishers
Beckley-Roberts, Lisa	Album Review of Wolfhawkjaguar's "Debut Album Hunter Poetry"	<i>Worlds of Music Journal, Spring 2016</i>
Cooper, Rhonda	"Why Not the LSAT"	<i>National Jurist, December 3, 2015</i>
Gray, Lolita D. et al.	"A Study of Asthma as Race Socio-Economic Health Disparity among Minority Communities"	<i>Gender, and Class, Vol. 22, 2015</i>
Hill, Rickey et al.	"The Race Problematic in the Age of Barack Obama," in Donald Cunnings et al. (eds.)	<i>Race in the Age of Obama: Part 2. United Kingdom: Emerald, 2015</i>
Hill, Rickey et al.	"A Trilogy of Trepidation: Diverse Perspectives on Police Violence Targeting African American Males"	<i>Journal of Human Behavior in the Social Environment, Vol. 26, No.2, 227-235.</i>
Hill, Rickey et al.	"The Killing of Black People by the U.S. State is as American as Apple Pie: Groundwork toward a Critique"	<i>The Journal of Race & Policy, Vol. II, No. 2, Fall/Winter 2015. 5-22</i>
Orey, D'Andra et al.	"The 50 th Anniversary of the Voting Rights Act and the Quiet Revolution"	<i>National Political Science Review, 2015, 17</i>
Orey, D'Andra	"Evolution and Devolution of the Voting Rights Act? Black Descriptive and Substantive Representation," in Kyle et al. (eds.).	New York: Praeger, 2015
Orey, D'Andra et al.	"The Evolution of Racial Attitudes from Martin Luther King to Barack Obama," in Michael Clemons (ed.)	University Press, June 2016
Titani-Smith, Leniece and Hill, Rickey	<i>The Racial Contract: The Case of Ferguson, Missouri,</i> in Charles Jones (ed.)	<i>In and Out of the Fire: Readings in Africana Studies (forthcoming), 2016</i>
Titani-Smith, Leniece.	"Bad Apples and Lax Housekeeping: Chicago Dailies Coverage of Ghost Payrolling"	<i>Illinois Political Science Review, 2015</i>
Bell, T. P.	"From psycholinguistics to neuroscience: The Neural Mechanisms underlying language and aphasia," in P. Daniels (ed.)	UK: Cambridge Scholars Publishing, 2015, pp. 3-20
Bell, T. P.	"Meditative Practice Cultivates Mindfulness and Reduces Anxiety, Depression, Blood Pressure and Heart Rate in a Diverse Sample"	<i>Journal of Cognitive Psychotherapy, 29(4), 343-355.</i> doi: 2015 http://dx.doi.org/10.1891/0889-8391.29.4.343

Bell, T. P. & Akombo, D. O.	“Long-Term Music-Listening's Effects on Blood Pressure, Heart Rate, Anxiety and Depression”	<i>Journal of Alternative Medicine Research</i> , 9(1), 000-000
Bell, T. P., et al.	“Listening to classical music results in a positive correlation between spatial reasoning and mindfulness”	<i>Psychomusicology: Music, Mind, & Brain</i> , 26(3), 000-000, 2016
Nevels, R., Gontkovsky, S. T., & Williams, B.	“Paroxetine—the Antidepressant from Hell? Probably Not, But Caution Required”	<i>Psychopharmacology Bulletin</i> , Volume 46, Number 1, 2016
Mesidor, Mesidor, J. & Sly, K.	J. & Sly, K. (2016). “Factors that contribute to the adjustment of international students”	<i>Journal of International Students</i> , 6 (1), 262-282, 2016
McLin, D. B. et al.	“Beyond Brick & Mortar: A Mobile Technology Ecosystem at an HBCU”	<i>Interface International Journal(TIJ,2016)</i>
Lee, R.E, Reese-Smith, J. et al.	“Reach and Representativeness of Ethnic Minority Women in the Health is Power Study: A Longitudinal analysis”	<i>Translational Behavioral Medicine: Practice, Policy, Research</i> . 2016. 1-9. DOI 10.1007/s13142-016-0385-99, 2016
Ledetra, Lingam, B., Green, B, Hayes, T., Reese-Smith, J. et al.	“Is Perceived Everyday Discrimination Associated with Blood Pressure among Black Men who Have Sex with Men (MSM) in the Deep South?”	<i>American Public Health Association</i> (published abstract), 2016
Williams, B. et al.	“Clinical and Policy Implications of Bullying: A National Sample”	<i>Online Journal of Rural and Urban Research</i> , (August) 2016
Mcdavitt, Laura	<i>Choices and Connections: An Introduction to Communication (Instructor Manual with SupplementalMaterial) (2nd Edition)</i>	Bedford: St. Martin.
McDavitt, Laura.	“Poverty”	<i>Global Encyclopedia of Public Administration and Public Policy</i> . Springer Publishing, 2016
Azevedo, Mario J.	<i>Historical Perspectives on Health and Health systems in Africa: The Struggle for Survival</i>	New York: Palgrave-Macmillan Publisher (signed contract), May 2016

CONFERENCES:

Mario J. Azevedo, panel Chair, "Elections and Violence in Africa," African Studies Association, San Diego, CA, November 2015.

Mark Bernhardt. "Promoting Masculinity and Conquest in the New York Sun's And New York Herald's Coverage of the Mexican War." Nineteenth-Century Studies Association. Lincoln, NE; April 15, 2016.

_____ "This Could Be Heaven or This Could Be Hell: Relocation to the West and the Transformation of Identity in A History of Violence and Dead Man." Popular Culture Association/American Culture Association. Seattle, WA; March 25, 2016.

_____ "When Baby Lindy Disappeared: The Assessment of Parenting in the Press Coverage of the Lindbergh Kidnapping." Midwest Popular Culture Association/American Culture Association. Cincinnati, OH, October 4, 2015.

_____ Caring For "America's Child: The Critique of Charles and Anne Lindbergh as Parents in the U.S. Press Coverage of the Lindbergh Kidnapping. Childhood: Exploitation and Danger." Oxford University, July 25, 2015.

Rico D. Chapman. Margaret Walker Alexander: Mother of the Black Studies Movement," 40th Annual National Council for Black Studies, Charlotte, NC, March 19, 2016.

_____ "The Birth of Black Studies at Jackson State College," Association of Social and Behavioral Scientist Annual Conference, Jackson, MS, March 10, 2016.

_____ Planet Deep South Town Hall Discussion, "The Relevance of Hip Hop Culture to Historically Black Colleges and Universities," Jackson State University, February 25, 2016.

_____ Moderator, "Planet Deep South Colloquium, Afrofuturism, Black Power, and Pan-Africanism," Jackson State University, February 26, 2016.

_____ Fall Faculty and Staff Seminar, "JSU and Community College Partnerships, Extramural Programs, and Pedagogy," Jackson State University, August 14, 2015.

Robert Luckett. "Jubilee at 50 and the Margaret Walker Papers at Jackson State University "College Language Association Conference, Houston (March 2016)

_____ "The Southern Manifesto at 60: Tales from the Past, Lessons for the Future" Presentation, "The Southern Manifesto as State Education Policy," American Enterprise Institute, Washington, D.C. (March 2016)

_____ "The Civil Rights Movement in Southwest Mississippi," Mississippi Cultural Crossroads, Port Gibson, MS (February 2016)

_____ "This Is My Century: Margaret Walker and the Black Arts Movement," Mississippi Philological Association, Keynote Speaker, Mississippi University for Women (February 2016)

_____ "Joe T. Patterson and the White South's Dilemma" Lemuria Bookstore, Jackson (December 2015)

_____ "Thoughts I Will Keep From the Margaret Walker Centennial Celebration" Margaret Walker Centennial, Jackson-Hinds Public Library System (November 2015)

Susan Maneck, presented of a paper on the "Tuskegee Airmen" at the Association of Baha'i Studies Annual meeting in Anaheim, chaired a panel at one of the additional meetings of The American Academy of Religion, Atlanta, GA

Lomarsh Roopnarine, paper "The Ethnic Conundrum In The United States Virgin Islands," presented at National Association of African American Studies & Affiliates on February 11, 2016, Baton Rouge, Louisiana

Sharon McCarthy, "Conserving the Legacy: Gallery at JSU, Tuskegee University Legacy Museum 2016, UNCF/Mellon HBCUs Museum Gallery Space Teaching and Learning," May 17-19, 2016

Yumi Park, research Paper Presentation, September 2015 – Society of Amazonian and Andean Studies
October 2015 – SECA

Charles Carraway, April 2016 – Ms Collegiate Faculty Juried Exhibition, Lauren Rodgers Museum Art Competitive
Juried Exhibition, The William Cary Hulsey Curator of American Art at Birmingham Museum of Art.

_____, October 15-19– Purchase of Painting, "The City" for the Annual Mississippi Museum of Art
Fundraiser, "Art by Choice"

Charles Carraway – February 2016 – Charleswcarraway.Com

Chalmer Mayers, Jr. worked with the David Rae Morris Project "Yazoo Revisited," as an interview participant,
consultant, and post-screening panelist as part of an NEH Grant.

Chalmer Mayers, Jr., participated in the "Ask for More Artists-in- Residency Program" at Brinkley Middle School.
Hyun Kim served as reporter for the Ceramic Monthly, Korean Edition.

Yumi Park, invited lecturer at Wonkang University, Icksan, South Korea and panel discussant at CICA Museum
South Korea.

Jimmy Mumford – 2016 Design Competitions – The Communicator Awards, "How to Design Competition"

Jimmy Mumford and **Chalmers Mayers, Jr.**, presenter, "Ask for More Arts Exhibition" –Smith-Robertson Museum
of Art (competition), 2016

Hyun Kim preseted: Contemporary Ceramic, Wonkang University, South Korea

Contemporary Arts and Ceramics, Northeastern University, Shenyang China

David Rembert and Travis, K. "Correctional Officer Excessive Use of Force," paper presented at the Academy of
Criminal Justice Sciences Annual meeting, Denver, CO, 2015.

David Rembert, & Threadcraft, W. "Youth Assault against Correctional Staff," paper presented at the American
Society of Criminology meeting at Washington, DC, 2015.

R. Cobbs, S. Morris-Francis, S. Tapper, D. Rembert, & I.E. Okoye, Roundtable: "How are Universities Responding
to Student-on-Student Sexual Assaults?" presented at the American Society of Criminology meeting in Washington,
DC, 2015.

Thomas Kersen, 2015. "The Dan Blocker Singers and an Ozarks Utopia." Ninth Annual Ozarks Symposium.
September 19. West Plains, MO.

_____, Bates, Larry, and Hudiburg, Richard. 2015. "Topics That Make Use of New Types of
Data and Research Methods." Annual Meeting of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion. October
Newport Beach, CA

_____, 2015. "'Insider/Outsider': The Unique Nature of the Sociological Perspective and Practice."
Annual Meeting of the Association of Applied and Clinical Sociology. September 19, Montgomery, AL, plenary
speaker.

Etta Morgan. "The Future of Capital Punishment in the United States," paper presented at the Southern Criminal
Justice Association Annual Conference.

"The Case of Michelle Byrom," paper presented at the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences Annual Conference.

Yu Zhang. "A Geographic Analysis of Police Misconduct," paper presented at the Southern Criminal Justice
Association Annual Conference

Marino Bruce, Beech Bum, Thorpe Jr., RJ, Griffith, Dm. 2015. "Racial Disparities in Sugar Consumption and
Behavioral Modification Efficacy among Male First-Year College Students," paper presented at the American Public
Health Association Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL. October 31-November 5.

_____. 2016. "Out of Sight and Out of Mind: Health Issues Among Rural African American Men."
Mississippi State University, Starkville, MS, January 21.

_____. 2016. "Health Disparities in Mississippi: The Promise of Precision." Mississippi Academy of
Sciences Annual Meeting, Hattiesburg, MS, February 18.

Marino Bruce: Thorpe R.j., Griffith D., Gilbert Kg, Elder K, Bruce Ma.* 2015. "Men's Health in 2010s: What Is the
Global Challenge?" *Forthcoming in Men's Health in Primary Care*, edited by JJ Heidelbaugh. New York: Springer.

Laura Miller, Helen Crump, Helen Chukwuma, Rashell Smith-Spears, and Preselfannie Mcdaniels; Mississippi Philological Association (MPA) Conference, Columbus, MS,
 JSU ROTC Hosted the Community Leader and Education Luncheon
 West Point Leadership Conference.

Helen Chukwuma, African Literature Association (ALA), Atlanta, GA
Everett Neasman, College English Association, Denver, CO
Tomaz Cunningham, Kentucky Foreign Language Conference, Lexington, Ky
Brian Phillips, Northeastern Modern Language Association, Baltimore, MD
Kathi Griffin and Tatiana Glushko, Presenters. Transitioning To College Writing Symposium (TCW), Oxford, MS; International Writing Center Association Conference (IWCA), Pittsburg, PA; College Composition and Communication Conference, Houston, TX; and Mississippi Writing Center Association (MSWCA), Starkville, MS.
Kathi Griffin and Tatiana Glushko and **Brian Phillips**, Brown Bag Presenters, JSU Center For University Scholars.
Candis Pizzetta, South Central Modern Language Association Conference, Nashville
Rashell Smith-Spears. Popular Culture Association of the South. Wilimington, NC
Noel Didla, National Conference of Black Political Scientists, "Planet Deep South" Jackson, MS
Helen Crump, co-coordinated the Spring 2016 Creative Arts Festival, Jackson State University
Rhonda C. Cooper, Paper, *"Religion in Institutional and Electoral Contexts; the Separation of Religion and Education: The Impact of Charter Schools on Inner-City Catholic Schools,"* 87th Annual Conference of the Southern Political Science Association, January 7-9, 2016, San Juan, Puerto Rico.
Lolita D. Gray, Discussant and Paper, *"Eliminating Asthma Disparities through Mandating Systematic Reporting,"* 87th Conference of the Southern Political Science Association, January 7-9, 2016, San Juan, Puerto Rico.
 _____, moderator and presenter of *"An Ethical Approach to Public Policy Creation and the Impact on Health Disparities,"* 45th Annual Conference of the Conference of Minority Public Administrators, February 17-19, 2016, Jackson, MS.
Rickey Hill and Leniece T. Smith, paper, *"The Racial Contract: The Case of Ferguson, Missouri,"* 87th Annual Conference of the Southern Political Science Association, January 7-9, 2016, San Juan, Puerto Rico.
 _____, **Rickey Hill** and Leniece T. Smith, paper, *"The Racial Contract: The Case of Ferguson, Missouri,"* 47th Annual Conference of the National Conference of Black Political Scientists, March 16-19, 2016, Jackson, MS.
Ray S. Mikell, Presenter, "Technology in Teaching," College of Liberal Arts Innovation Program, JSU, November 19, 2015.
 _____, paper, *"Context-Dependent Multiple Choice Questions and Learning Retention in Teaching about Democracy: A Pilot Project,"* American Political Science Association Teaching and Learning Conference, February 12-14, 2016, Portland, OR.
D'Andra Orey, paper, *"African American Identity and Psychophysiological Responses to Racially Traumatic Stressful Events,"* Annual Conference of the Midwestern Political Science Association, April 7-10, 2016, Chicago, IL.
 _____, paper(with students: Kiescia Dickinson, Courtney Viveretta, and Juan Knight) *"HBCUs to Conduct Research on Black Political Attitudes and Behavior,"* 47th Annual Conference of the National Conference of Black Political Scientists, March 16-19, 2016, Jackson, MS.
 _____, paper (Student: Ernest Dupree III), *"Southern White Legislative backlash to the Voting Rights Act of 1965,"* 87th Annual Conference of the Southern Political Science Association, January 7-9, 2016, San Juan, Puerto Rico.
 _____, *"Reflections on Voting Rights in the South in the Age of Shelby v. Holder (2013),"* 87th Conference of the Southern Political Science Association, January 7-9, 2016, San Juan, Puerto Rico.
 _____, paper, *"Blacks' Political Attitudes and Psychological Responses to Racially Traumatic Stressful Events,"* 87th Annual Conference of the Southern Political Science Association, January 7-9, 2016, San Juan, Puerto Rico.
Leniece Titani-Smith, attendee, Purdue University, Pre-Tenured Women Conference, October, 2015, Lafayette, Indiana.

_____ and Rickey Hill, paper, *"The Racial Contract: The Case of Ferguson, Missouri,"* 87th Annual Conference of the Southern Political Science Association, January 7-9, 2016, San Juan, Puerto Rico.

_____, discussant, Track: *"Integrating technology in the classroom,"* American Political Science Association Teaching and Learning Conference, February 12-14, 2016, Portland, OR.

_____, moderator, panel: *"Intersections of Black Politics, Black Feminisms, and Black Lives,"* Association of Social and Behavioral Scientists, March 11, 2016, Jackson, MS.

_____, **Titani-Smith** and Rickey Hill, paper, *"The Racial Contract: The Case of Ferguson, Missouri,"* 47th Annual Conference of the National Conference of Black Political Scientists, March 16-19, 2016, Jackson, MS.

Rickey Hill, moderator of the Hamer @COFO Program on the Ayers Decision, JSU, February 2016.

_____, panelist at the Margaret Walker Center's *Creative Arts Festival*, JSU, April 15, 2016.

_____, interviewed on April 27, 2016 by Fire Light Media for the production of its 2017 film: *"Tell Them We Are Rising: The Story of Historically Black Colleges and Universities."*

_____, **Guest Speaker**, "Black History Month Program: Hallowed Grounds!" Federal Prison, Yazoo City, MS. *"The Culture."* February 24, 2016.

_____, **Guest Speaker**, *"Winning the Race Conference,"* Delta State University, March 2016.

J. Fisher, K. Fisher, L. Lee-Rowland, and B. Williams (2016). "Graduate Student-Parents: Insights from the World of Diapers and Dissertations," Symposium at the 2016 Southeastern Psychological Association Convention, New Orleans, LA.

K. Portz, L. Wheelless, A. Laikin, and B. Williams. (September 2015). "Mapping Cultural Diversity: The Path Forward." A symposium presented at the 2015 Mississippi Psychological Association Conference

Debra Pate, (2016). "Faculty/Wives," paper presented in the Key Barkley Symposium on the History of Psychology at the 2016 meeting of the Southern Society for Philosophy and Psychology.

_____, (2016). "Raymond D. Fowler: Organizational Activities, paper presented in the Eminent Southeastern Psychologists Symposium for the 2016 meeting of the Southeastern Psychological Association Convention, Bay St. Louis, MS.

Portz, & **D.S. Pate** (2015). "Sexual Harassment, Impact of Events, and Satisfaction with Life among College Students"). Presented at the meeting of the Society for the Scientific Study of Sexuality.

Taunjah Bell Neasman P. & D. McLin Bishop (2016). *"Flipping a classroom: Application of brain-based learning principles in the 21st century university classroom."* Symposium presented at the 2016 Annual CyberLearning Summit of the Jackson State University Division of Undergraduate Studies and CyberLearning, Jackson, MS.

A. Laikin, K. Portz, C. Karlson, C., & T. Bell *Mental health in children with medical conditions: A review & treatment discussion.* Symposium presented at the 2015 Annual Meeting of the Mississippi Psychological Association, Bay St. Louis, MS.

Dawn B. McLin., "Transcending Brick and Mortar: Using Mobile Technologies in Higher Education" (2015). JSU Center for University Scholars, Brown Bag lecture series. Jackson State University, Jackson, Mississippi.

_____, "Using Technology in Teaching at an HBCU." Paper presented at the March 4, 2016 Annual Conference of the Association of Social and Behavioral Scientists, Jackson, Mississippi.

Keith Hudson, (2015). Growing up in an addict's home: Why do I struggle with rules, relationships and identity? Paper presented at Mississippi Counseling Association's Annual Conference, Biloxi, MS.

A. Davis & C. Moreland (2015, September). "Understanding the link between perceptions and attitudes of rap music, racial identity, and self-esteem of college-aged African American men and women." Poster presented at MPA, Bay St. Louis, MS.

_____, (2015, July). Understanding the link between perceptions and attitudes of rap music, racial identity, and self-esteem of college-aged African American men and women. Paper presented at the Association of Black Psychologists, Las Vegas, Nevada.

J. W. Fisher, A. Davis, M. Sims, J. Reese-Smith, T. Kearns-Cooper, B. Williams, & C. Moreland (2016). "Racial discrimination, mental health, lifestyle, and racial identity among African American adults: Directions for research and clinical applications," presentation for 24th National Conference of the National Association of African American Studies (NAAAS) & Affiliates, Baton Rouge, LA, February 8-13, 2016.

J. Kwoh, & J. Schweitzer (2016). "Current Mindfulness stress reduction techniques for college students." Poster presented at the MS Academy of Sciences, Hattiesburg, MS.

P. Banks, T. Kearns-Cooper, T. Arnold, & E. Bologna (2016). Beyond being culturally competent: Cultural

competencies and cultural humility? Paper presented at the Southeastern Psychological Association Annual conference, New Orleans, LA.

M. Ramsey, B. Pointer, & J. Reese-Smith (2015). "Dietary Habits among Mississippi High School students." Presented at the Jackson Heart Study Research Day.

Bryman Williams, moderator, Graduate Student and Faculty Colloquia were held on July 22 2015, papers presented by five of our graduate students, "Application of Evidence-Based Practices: A *Psychological Analysis of Christopher 'Chris' Maurice Brown.*"

Juliette Schweitzer received a license to become a Heartmath coach through the Heartmath Institute. National Association of Dramatic And Speech Arts Conference held at Grambling State University, April

6-9, 2016. Attended by **Mark G. Henderson, Dr. Nadia Bodie, and Mr. Prince Duren.**

Black Theatre Symposium, North Mississippi Drama Festival, Mississippi Theatre Association attended by **Yolanda Williams**, "How to affect a British or received pronunciation accent in accordance with the International Phonetic Alphabet."

JURIED PERFORMANCES/EXHIBITS:

Hyun Kim Created A Life Size Mule Sculpture For Delta Regional Mule Train Museum, Marks, Mississippi

Hyun Kim--The International Week Committee and International Visual Committee member
Art exhibit

C. Leigh McInnis, Featured Poet. Albany State University 2015 Poetry Festival. Albany, GA

"A Raisin in the Sun," Directed by **Mark G. Henderson** and The Glass Menagerie directed by **Yolanda Williams** were each adjudicated as a peer-reviewed juried Exhibition sponsored by the Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival, Region IV, Fall 2015.

"Like Fine Wine," written and directed by **Prince Duren** was adjudicated as a peer-reviewed juried Exhibition at the National Association of Dramatic and Speech Arts Conference, Grambling State University, April 2016

Nadia Bodie-Smith, Workshop presented at the National Association of Dramatic and Speech Arts conference, Grambling State University, April 2016

Charles Carraway, March 2016 – Mississippi Museum of Art, "Collectors Club" Studio Visit and Presentation.

_____, March 10, 2016 – "Two Person Exhibit," Charles Carraway and Thomas Frontini, Fischer Gallery, Jackson, Ms.

_____, **Kenyatta Stewart, Yumi Park**, Hoski Kim, **Hyun Kim, Mark Geil, Jimmy Mumford** – September 8, 2015 – "Jackson State University Faculty Exhibition," The Arts Center Of Mississippi, Jackson, MS.

Mark Geil, Nurture/Nature Exhibition, Sulfur Studios, Savannah, GA.

_____, - "National Photo Contest: State of Being Human," Woody Gaddis Gallery, University of Central Oklahoma, Edmond, OK.

_____, "Motion," Ph21 Gallery, Budapest, Hungary.

Clay demonstration and lecture, Contemporary Arts and Ceramics, Liaoning Special Education High School, Shenyang, China

OTHER:

Invited and Non-Invited Presentations

Marino Bruce, 2015. Discussion Leader on "Worlds Apart." University of Mississippi Medical Center, Jackson, Mississippi, April 8

Ceron Bryant and **Everett Neasman** National Association of African American Studies (NAAAS), Baton Rouge, LA

Ceron Bryant, Helen Crump, Rashell Smith-Spears, and Preselfannie Mcdaniels College Language Association (CLA), Houston, TX

RaShell Smith-Spears and **C. Leigh McInnis**, Jackson-Hinds Library Margaret Walker Alexander Centennial Celebration Lecture, Jackson, MS

Tomaz Cunningham, Sakinah Abdur-Rashied, Kathy Pitts, C. Leigh McInnis, and Helen Chukwuma, panelists. African American Read-In, Jackson, MS.

Esperanza Velasquez, Featured Speaker. National Hispanic Heritage Month. JSU Welcome Center.

Brian Phillips, Tomaz Cunningham, Jean Santos (Fulbright), **Doris Ginn**, and **C. Leigh McInnis**, JSU Innovation Week Presenters (representing College of Liberal Arts), Jackson, MS

Frankye Adams-Johnson, panelist. "Screening of Black Panther," documentary, NAACP and JSU History and Philosophy and Political Science Departments, Jackson, Mississippi

Helen Chukwuma, Workshop and paper presenter. "Critical Investigations into Humanitarian Action in Africa." University of Ghana, Legon, Ghana

C. Leigh McInnis, presenter, King Solomon Historical Preservation Society, "Veterans of the MS Civil Rights Movement," Pleasant Grove MBC Black History Program, Jackson, MS

Preselfannie McDaniels. JSU Fall Faculty/Staff Seminar. Jackson, MS

Helen Crump, Spring 2016 Gibbs-Green Annual Memorial Ceremony. Jackson, MS

Nadia Bodie Smith was a Research Fellow with the JSU undergraduate studies mentoring Freshmen/Sophomore Students' Research on the effects of The Ebola virus, resented at JSU in Fall 2015.

Nadia Bodie Smith worked as Prop Master and Set decorator for the upcoming independent film, "God's Prayer," filmed member for art historians interested in technology

American Archaeology (SAA), Committee member for Art historians interested in technology

Jimmy Mumford, Chair, Mississippi Collegiate Art Competition Committee

Mark Geil, Co-Chair, Mississippi Collegiate Art Competition Committee

Yumi Park--Pre-Columbian Art consultant for the Mississippi Museum of Art, professional consultant for Asian Art collectors

Jimmy Mumford and **Mark Geil** organized the Annual Mississippi Collegiate Art Competition.

Yumi Park, invited lecturer, Wonkang University, Icksan, South Korea, 2016

Panel discussant at CICA Museum, South Korea, 2016

Jimmy Mumford juried Congressman Gregg Harper's Annual Art Competition on location, Jackson, MS.

Online Cadet Command Publications, Military Science, ROTC

Yumi Park College of Art Association (CAA), Southeastern College of Art Conference (SECAC), Society for American Archaeology (SAA)

Committee **Jimmy Mumford** and **Mark Geil** Judged The Veterans Affairs National Veterans Creative Arts Festival

Jimmy Mumford – Guest Graphic Design Critiquer – Belhaven University

Hyun Kim, presenter of essay contest (\$1,000), "World Peace," sponsored by the 17th Korean Unification, Houston Chapter.

Marino Bruce, Siddig Fageir, Thomas Kersen, Consandra McNeil and **Etta Morgan** readers for the departmental examinations.

Thomas Kersen assists with preparing the department's Annual Assessment Report.

Verna Taylor and **Chad Shook** serve as co-advisors for the CJ Honor Society.

Siddig Fageir serves as the Faculty Senate Representative for the department.

Thomas Kersen serves on the College's Rapid Response Team and Mr. Fageir serves on the College's Innovators/Technology Team.

Etta F. Morgan, chair of the Search Committee for the Associate Dean of Social Work in the College of Public Service.

Chair of the Search Committee for the Director of International Programs/JSU Global.

Member of the Institute of Government's Pollong Center Oversight Committee.

Consandra Mcneil, member of the Search Committee for the Associate Dean of the College of Liberal Arts.

Siddig Fageir, representative, faculty Senate.

Thomas Kersen, moderator, for Panel 14 of 9th Creative Arts Festival held at JSU (April 2015).

JSU Accreditation Team Member, University Assessment Team (Present).

JSU Committee Member, Global Inquiry Task Force. (Present).

Marino Bruce, Member, University Sexual Harassment Committee, Jackson State University.

Member, Academy for Research and Scholarly Engagement Selection Committee, Jackson State University.

Member of two dissertation committees in the College of Public Service.

Thomas Kersen, President, Alabama/Mississippi Sociological Association, February 2016.

Thomas Kersen reviewed 4th edition of *Asset Building and Community Development* by Gary Green and Anna Haines (Sage Publication).

David Rembert served as a panel chair at the American Society of Criminology Annual Conference.

Manuscript reviewer for the Online *Journal of Rural and Urban Research and Corrections Policy*.

Etta F. Morgan served as a panel Chair at the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences Annual Conference.

Chair at the Southern Criminal Justice Conference.

Marino Bruce, discussion leader, "Worlds Apart" at the University of Mississippi Medical Center, Jackson, MS, April 8, 2015.

_____, "Out of Sight and Out of Mind: Health Issues Among Rural African American Men, ." presented at Mississippi State University, Starkville, MS, January 21, 2016.

Marino Bruce, "Health Disparities in Mississippi: The Promise of Precision." Mississippi Academy of Sciences Annual Meeting, Hattiesburg, MS, February 18, 2016.

Susan Maneck will continue to serve as consultant for App World History program of the College Board as administered by the Educational Policy Improvement Centers in June 2016.

Kiescia Dickinson, Courtney Viveretta, and Juan Knight, presenters of paper titled "*Research on Black Political Attitudes and Behavior*," 87th Annual Conference of the Southern Political Science Association, January 7-9, 2016, and at the 47th Annual Conference of the National Conference of Black Political Scientists, March 16-19, 2016, in Jackson, MS.

SCHOLARLY PRODUCTIVITY: CONCLUSION

On the issue of non-peer-reviewed work (book reviews, abstracts, and speaking engagements at non-professional conferences (such as symposia, university presentations by invitation, and online work, which numbered 25, some departments distinguished themselves more than others, with English, History and Philosophy, Music, and Criminal Justice excelling in the number of books. On book chapters featured in edited volumes, again English and Modern Foreign Languages and Criminal Justice led the way in numbers produced, although several others did well, as well. The number of peer-reviewed articles was particularly notable in the Departments of Art, English and Modern Foreign Languages, Political Science, and Psychology. The departments more productive in professional presentations included History, Art, Criminal justice and Sociology, Political Science, and Psychology. In the area of forthcoming books and articles, the Departments of History and Criminal Justice and Sociology led the way this year, while on student-faculty research and conference presentations, Music was notably active in the College. Publication of work in peer-reviewed journals and creativity by non-tenure-track and tenured faculty, four in number and one book, are credited to English and Modern Foreign Languages.

If one applies the criterion of quality of scholarly output, in a college with such a large number of faculty as the College of Liberal Arts is, it is not that simple to assign quality, as the evaluation or assessor would have to read a good portion of the work done, which is not possible. However, one may look at the reputation of the publishing houses and the media where peer-activities work appear. While the books cited here include publications by Palgrave-Macmillan, McFarland, Langston, University Press of Mississippi, Emerald Group Publishing Limited, and Africa World Press, the peer-reviewed articles are featured, among others, in the following journals: *Worlds of Music Journal, National Jurist, Race, Gender, and Class, Journal of Human Behavior in the Social Environment, Journal of Race & Gender and Policy, National Political Science Review, Journal of Cognitive Psychotherapy, College Language Association Journal, Journal of Alternative Medicine Research, Technology Interface Journal, and*

Journalism History, all of which are high on the list of well-known publishers and good journals. When the number of peer-reviewed articles are distributed proportionately among tenured and tenure-track faculty members only, of the nine books, eight were the work of Associate professors; among the book chapters, five were the result of the work of only two full Professors; the peer-reviewed articles and performances/creative work or exhibits were produced by three Assistant Professors (Kim and Geil), one full Professor, whereas the forthcoming books and articles (number) were the work credited to two full Professors and nine to Associate Professors.

In summary, the milestones in College of Liberal Arts were the high number of books published during the past academic year, which number nine, by tenured and tenure-track faculty, with peer-reviewed articles and book chapters coming in second place, and performances/creative work and professional presentations ranking third place. Yet a review of the publishing medium used, faculty are advised to rather seek to be featured in first- or second-tier journals in their field before sending manuscripts to third-tier media or little known book publishing houses.

SERVICE: DEPARTMENT, COLLEGE, UNIVERSITY, PROFESSION, AND COMMUNITY

“Service is the rent we pay for being. It is the very purpose of life, and not something you do in your spare time” (Marian Wright Edelman). Keeping Edelman’s very pertinent quotation about the purpose of service as a cornerstone for faculty involvement, the faculty members in the various disciplines in the College of Liberal Arts take the commitment to service very seriously. Faculty service through committee memberships during 2015-2016 has been extensive at all levels of the University and beyond. The goal is to enhance the college’s integration of the arts, humanities, and social and behavioral sciences in the surrounding community, city, region, nation, and beyond in public outreach efforts. Following is a brief discussion of the service rendered by college faculty through individual and committee memberships in the departments, College, University, community, and various professions.

Liberal Arts faculty all are assigned to various departmental committees, usually averaging three (3) or more assignments per faculty member. The committees include but are not limited to the Promotion and Tenure, Search, Undergraduate Advisory, Graduate Advisory, Curriculum Review, Awards, Forum, Recruitment, Retention, Festival, Honor Societies, Advisement, Departmental Examination, and Faculty Evaluation committees. Each department also has Faculty Senate representatives, and is represented in the leadership team of the Staff Senate (Mrs. Latonia Harper). In addition and because of the wide talent and knowledge base, Liberal Arts faculty often serve on various search, review, thesis, project, and dissertation committees in other departments, our colleges, and other colleges at the University. Participation on search committees even rises to the university level (i.e., Dr. Etta Morgan-Associate Dean of Social Work/College of Public Service; Prof. Kenyatta Stewart-School of Journalism and Media Studies Search Committee).

At the college level, all departments are represented with chairs and faculty working together to produce the first national Liberal Arts conference at JSU, “[Re] Defining Liberal Arts Education in the 21st Century.” Conference co-chairs include Prof. Jimmy Mumford, Dr. Robert Lockett, and Dr. Kathi Griffin.

Also at the college level are hard-working faculty members who serve on the Innovators, Curriculum, Visual and Performing Arts Series, and Rapid Response Team committees. Each department represented the college at Academic Advisement Day, College Day, High School Day, and Transfer Day, as well. Faculty also collaborate with programs sponsored by the various Centers in the College of Liberal Arts, such as the Margaret Walker Center's Creative Arts Festival, Fannie Lou Hamer Institute @COFO Center's Black History Makers Series, Alcohol and Drug Studies Center's various awareness seminars, Gallery One's openings, and the Richard Wright Center's workshops and roundtables. Some even provide extra service in the centers, such as Dr. Ceron Bryant and Mrs. Shelia Salins, who provide tutoring services in the Richard Wright Center, Ms. Ogochukwu Ngwudike serves as an Upward Bound program tutor, and Dr. Helen Crump who chairs the Margaret Walker Center's Creative Arts Festival.

At the University level, the departments in the College of Liberal Arts are well represented on the various committees, including each department's representatives on Assessment, Technology, and Accreditation teams. Dr. Rickey Hill served as a member of the Dean's Council Task Force on Hiring Practice, and Prof. Hyun Kim was leading member of the International Week committee. Departments also have Graduate Council representatives. Other representatives are as follows: University Promotion and Tenure Committee (Dr. Candis Pizzetta and Prof. Jimmy Mumford, Tenure and Promotion Appeals Committee (Drs. Helen Chukwuma and Byron Orey), University Grievance Committee (Drs. Robert Luckett and Helen Crump), Faculty Personnel Committee (Prof. Kenyatta Stewart and Dr. RaShell Smith-Spears, Freshman Class Sponsor (Dr. Nadia Bodie-Smith), and the University Sexual Harassment Grievance Committee (Dr. Marino Bruce). The College was also represented well during the JSU Innovation Month series, a college effort organized by Dr. Doris Ginn, featuring Drs. Pamela Banks, Monica Flippin-Wynn, Tomaz Cunningham and Brian Phillips, Mr. C. Liegh McInnis, Mr. Prince Duren, and Dr. David Akombo. Farah Christmas and Joshua Cotton served as coaches for the 27th Annual National Honda Campus All Star Challenge Championship team, competing in Los Angeles (Dr. Carolyn Meyers in attendance); including this year's grant, Jackson State has earned \$194,500 during its years of participation thus far). Commencement Committee members included Drs. Preselfannie McDaniels, David Akombo, and Mark Henderson. Readers of Names for Commencement and Honors Convocation included Drs. Nadia Bodie, Henderson, and McDaniels.

In the area of community service, hours rendered by the Liberal Arts faculty and staff are unparalleled. Across the state and beyond, we serve as competition judges in the following types of contests for K-12 and college level students: essay, poetry, drama, visual arts, oratorical, science fair, reading fair, etc. We also serve as participants, experts, mentors, reviewers, examiners, and evaluators in a wide range of community activities. Listed here is a sampling of our service: Mark Geil volunteers as Mississippi Collegiate Art Competition Image Coordinator (MCAC) with Professors Chalmers Mayers, Jr., Kenyatta Stewart, Dr. Yumi Park, Hyun Kim, and Charles Carraway serving on the MCAC Committee. Dr. David Rembert mentored with the following organizations: Go-To-High-School, Go-To-College, Project Alpha, Youth Leadership Development, 2015, and "A Voteless People is a Hopeless People" Voting Drive, 2015. Mr. C. Leigh McInnis served as a judge for "Poetry Out Loud" State Finals. Ms. Monica Granderson served as Coordinator for the JSU "African-American Read-In," sponsored by the National Council of Teachers of English. Dr. Kathy Pitts volunteered with the Jackson-Hinds Library System Summer Reading

Program. Dr. Dawn McLinis presenter for academically-oriented sessions for community groups and high school students in the Jackson Public School system and Advisory Board member for My Brother's Keeper, Inc. Dr. Keith Hudson serves on the Board for the MS Underage Drinking Prevention Coalition. The Department of Speech and Theater offers the youth summer program, Camp Stars for grades 2-12. JSU ROTC hosted the Community Leader and Education Luncheon. Professors Brian Phillips, Mauricio Alegria, and Carol Schweitzer provide service to the Jackson Police Academy Bilingual Works Program, teaching Spanish to First Responders. Dr. Brenda Anderson volunteers with Habitat for Humanity and "Walk for the Cure." Dr. Kashelia Harrion serves on Gov. Phil Bryant's Task Force on Teen Pregnancy. The Music Department is quite visible in the community with "Community Night Out," community parades, Make a Wish Foundation, and other activities.

As for service rendered in the various disciplines that Liberal Arts faculty represent, the hours donated are nothing short of phenomenal. The JSU brand is well highlighted statewide, regionally, nationally and internationally in this category. Herein are included some examples. Drs. Mark Geil and Rico Chapman served as co-curators on The Richard Henry Beadle Collection at the Art Gallery, JSUDowntown Campus. Prof. Jimmy Mumford (Chair) and Dr. Mark Geil (Co-Chair) provided leadership for the Mississippi Collegiate Art Competition Committee. Prof. Yumi Park serves as Pre-Columbian Art consultant for the Mississippi Museum of Art. JSU ROTC participated in the West Point Leadership Conference. Dr. Etta F. Morgan serves on the Institute of Government's Pollong Center Oversight Committee and City of Jackson's Re-Entry Task Force. Dr. Thomas Kersen serves as President of the Alabama/Mississippi Sociological Association and reviewer for Sage Publications. Dr. David Rembert is manuscript reviewer for the *Online Journal of Rural and Urban Research and Corrections Policy*. Dr. Susan Maneck serves as consultant for App World History program of the College Board as administered by the Educational Policy Improvement Centers. Dr. Marino Bruce is Co-Chair of the Governance Committee, Southeastern Health Equity Council Office of Minority Health. Professors C. Leigh Mcinnis, Helen Crump, and Rashell Smith-Spears, served on the Planet Deep South Conference Planning Committee, which was chaired by Dr. Rico Chapman and Mr. Keith McMillan. Dr. Preselfannie McDaniels is Chair of HBCU Committee for the College Language Association. Dr. Helen Crump serves as reviewer for *Hypatia: A Journal of Feminist Philosophy*. Dr. RaShell Smith-Spears serves as reviewer for University Press of Mississippi. Dr. Brian Phillips is a member of the Advanced Placement Examinations Team, Cincinnati, OH, and Dr. Tomaz Cunningham is reviewer for *The French Review*. Dr. Robert Luckett volunteers with Greater Jackson Chamber Partnership Board of Directors, Mississippi Civil Rights Museum, State Advisory Commission.

Dean Mario J. Azevedo serves as a member of the University Press of Mississippi Executive Board. Mr. Tony Bounds serves as docent for the Medgar Evers Civil Rights Museum. Prof. Rhonda C. Cooper serves on the Pre-Law Advisors National Council. D'Andra Orey (Chair) and Rickey Hill (Assistant Chair) provided leadership to the Local Arrangements Committee of the 47th Annual Convention of the National Conference of Black Political Scientists (March 2016, Jackson, MS). Military Science served in the Leadership Development Training Exercise at Choctaw Trails, Camp McCain, and Ft. Knox. Dr. Taunjah Bell Neasman volunteers with the American Red Cross, serves the Board of Directors for the University Press of Mississippi, and works as Secretary At-Large for the Board of Directors for the National Alliance

on Mental Illness (NAMI). Dr. Bryman Williams serves as consultant for the Jackson Public Schools and psychological testing member for the Board of the Mississippi Children's Home Services. Dr. Debra Sue Pate is Associate Historian for the Southeastern Psychological Association (SEPA).

Dr. Kaye Sly served as book reviewer for *International Students Mobility, Services, and Policy in Higher Education* and journal reviewer for *Adolescent Health*. Dr. Keith Hudson is Chairperson for Counseling Adolescents with Mental Issues for the MS Association of Multicultural Counseling and Development. Dr. Pamela Banks volunteers as reviewer for the Committee on Professional Opportunities (CEPO). Prof. Cheryl Moreland is reviewer for Tougaloo College senior papers and for the *Journal of Intercultural Disciplines* and *Online Journal of Rural and Urban Research*. Prof. Theresa Kearns-Cooper is textbook reviewer for SAGE Publishers. Dr. Jacqueline Reese-Smith serves as reviewer for abstracts submitted to Society for Behavioral Medicine (SBM). Dr. Nadia Bodie-Smith is editor of *Encore Journal*, National Association of Dramatic and Speech Arts, Inc., and board member of the New Stage Theatre, Jackson, and Professors Bodie-Smith, Duren, and Henderson serve as Executive Board members of the National Association of Dramatic and Speech Arts. In Military Science, two officers served as reviewers of other military services in the country.

II. SUSTAINABILITY

This section discusses how the College of Liberal Arts tries to maximize its own resources to ensure its survival as a viable unit that does not depend totally on institutional resources provided by the state legislature and the Mississippi Institutions of Higher Learning (IHL).

PROPOSALS:

Grant Proposal Submissions and Awards. In 2015-2016, the College of Liberal Arts faculty and staff were quite active and commendable in grant proposal writing. The report on grant submission is as follows: A total of forty-six (46) grant applications were submitted. The budgets for these grants applications totaled \$7,039,356. Applications spanned an array of funding agencies, ranging from the National Endowment for the Humanities to National Science Foundation. Twenty-three grants (50%) were submitted to governmental agencies and sixteen grants (35%) were submitted to foundations or private agencies. The remaining percentage (15%) of grant applications submitted sought intramural funds via JSU. Over 75% or seven out of the nine academic departments in the College of Liberal Arts submitted grant applications.

GRANTS:

The grant awards report indicates that 18 of out 46, or forty percent of the grant applications, were funded. The budgets for these grants totaled \$1,055,579. The Interdisciplinary Alcohol and Drug Studies unit was awarded the highest amount of grant support across three large grants. The Department of Psychology was the most involved in grant-writing, submitting eleven grants. The grant awards enabled faculty to conduct social/behavioral research and research related to the Humanities. Student

internships, undergraduate research, student travel grants to conferences, colloquia and museum services were also funded through grants.

Table 4: COLA Grants Proposal Submissions and Awards

Name of the PI and/or COP.I.	Department/Ce nter/Unit	Agency	Amount	Status	Funded
Yumi Park.	Art	Kresge Foundation	\$148,900	Submitted	
Yumi Park	Art	Getty Research Institute Scholars	\$20,000	Submitted	
Yumi Park	Art	NEH Faculty Awards for HBCUs	\$24,600	Submitted	
Yumi Park	Art	Sandra Collins Art History Support	\$12,000	Submitted	
Jimmy Mumford –	Art	MHC for the College of Liberal Arts Conference	\$7,500	Submitted	
Mark Geil	Art	Michael P. Smith Fund for documentary photography	\$5,000	Submitted	Not funded
Mark Geil	Art	Minigrant, Mississippi Arts Commission, funded in part by the National Endowment for the Humanities	\$300	Submitted	Funded
Preselfannie McDaniels	English and Modern Foreign Languages	Departmental Retreat, Via Partnership Proposal JSU Office of Research and Federal Relations	\$8,115	Submitted	Funded
Mark Bernhardt	History	NEH Research Grant for HBCU Faculty	\$50,400	Submitted	Pending
Mark Bernhardt	History	NEH Research Faculty Awards	\$50,400	Submitted	Pending
David Akombo,	Music	BMI Foundation, Inc.	\$10,000	Submitted	(Not Funded)
Mario J. Azevedo	COLA	“Socio-Cultural Modeling Institute” at JSU. Submitted to the United States Army	\$1,500,000	Submitted /pending review	

Mario J. Azevedo ,: with RaShell Smith-Spears and Leniece T. Smith	COLA/ EMFL/Political Science	“Understanding Africa Through Uganda,” Group Projects Abroad, proposal to be submitted this Fall to the US Department of Education	\$150,000	Submitted /review pending	
Lolita D. Gray	Political Science	JSU Global to explore course development and implementation related to China and Chinese culture (Spring 2016)		Submitted /pending	
Lolita D. Gray	Political Science	U.S. Department of Education’s 2016 Fulbright-Hays Seminars Abroad Program for Senegal (Africa)		Submitted /pending	
Taunjah P. Bell Neasman , PI; Dr. David O. Akombo , Co-PI; Tameka Tobias-Smith, Program Director	Psychology	Grammy Foundation, Scientific Research Grant Award “Effects of a Family-Based Educational Music Therapy Program,” Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS)	\$20,000	Submitted	
Taunjah Bell Neasman	Psychology	Summer Research Education Experience Programs (R25), PAR-15-184	\$100,000	Submitted	
Taunjah Bell Neasman	Psychology	National Science Foundation (NSF) 15-539)	\$150,000	Submitted	
Taunjah P. Bell Neasman , P.I., (Idalis Villanueva, Assistant Professor of Engineering and Engineering Education, Utah State University	Psychology	Professional Formation of Engineers (PFE: RIEF)” Directorate for Engineering-Engineering Education and Center. Note: Award will go to USU but the JSU Co-PI will receive support for her research and professional development	\$100,000	Submitted	Pending
Bryman Williams P.I. and Jacqueline Reese-Smith , Co-P.I.	Psychology	APA Visionary Grant	\$18,994	Submitted	Not Funded
Bryman	Psychology	Graduate Psychology Education	\$952,205	Submitted	In review

Williams, Co-P.I. Jacqueline Reese-Smith,		Grant, Total of three years			
Jacqueline Reese Smith, P.I. and Bryman Williams, Co PI	Psychology	Screening, Brief Intervention, & Referral to Treatment Health Professions Student Training Grant /Total of 3 years)	\$889,030	Submitted	Not Funded
Dawn McLin	Psychology	Health Careers Opportunities Program grant/ 3 year period	\$1,200,000	Submitted	Not funded
Jacqueline Reese-Smith and Pamela Banks	Psychology	APA for a summer research training opportunity for undergraduate students	\$15,000	Submitted	Not funded
Jacqueline Reese-Smith – Co-P.I.	Psychology	HBCU-CFE grant	\$7,500	Submitted	Funded
Jacqueline Reese-Smith , Co-P.I.	Psychology	MD Anderson: NIH U01, ACS and ACS (revision/resubmit). Value- TBA)			
Earnestine McNeal	Interdisciplinary Alcohol and Drug Studies	HIV/Substance Abuse Awareness Grant #5h79sp020174-03; JSU Index Code #632372; SAMSHA	\$299,319	Submitted	Funded
Earnestine McNeal	Interdisciplinary Alcohol/Drug Studies	Morehouse School of Medicine: Student’s Awareness Mental Health Project	\$7,500	Submitted	Funded
Earnestine McNeal	Interdisciplinary Alcohol/Drug Studies Center	Grant #G635615; JSU Index Code #63,5615; 635615, MS Department of Highway Safety Department	\$68,321.56	Submitted	Funded
Helen Crump	English and Modern Foreign Language	MS Arts Council (MAC) Grant	\$4,500	Submitted	
Ceron Bryant	English and Modern Foreign	Faculty mini-grant (Title III), JSU Center for Undergraduate	\$8,500	Submitted	Funded

	Language	Research/Stipend and travel			
Everett Neasman	English and Modern Foreign Language	Faculty Mini-Grant (Title III), JSU Center for Undergraduate Research/Stipend and Travel.	\$8,500	Submitted	Funded
Brian Phillips	English and Modern Foreign Language	JSU Academy of Research and Scholarly Engagement, 2015-2016 Cohort/Stipend	\$3,000	Submitted	Funded
Preselfannie McDaniels , Co-Principal Investigator, P.I., Monica Flippin Wynn	English and Modern Foreign Language	NEH Enduring Questions Grant, September 2015	\$24,402	Submitted	Not funded:
Candis Pizzetta , P.I., Preselfannie McDaniels , Co-P.I.	English and Modern Foreign Language	NEH HBCU Initiatives Grant, P.I., June 2015.	\$97,269	Submitted	Not funded/ Resubmission: June 2016
RaShell Smith-Spears (Co-P.I.), (with Mario Azevedo and Leniece Smith)	English and Modern Foreign Language	Fulbright-Hayes Faculty Grant	\$125,000	(In review— to be submitted in 2017)	
Rico D. Chapman , Project Director	History	National Leadership Grant- Museums, Association of African American Museums, Institute of Museum And Library Services, MG-00-15-0038-15, 2016	\$291,424	Submitted	Funded
Rico Chapman , Pilot Project Director	History	The Smithsonian Institution -- National Museum of African American History and Culture -- Community and Constituent Services --HBCU Museum student internship, November, 2015	\$4,000	Submitted	Funded

Rico Chapman, Principal Investigator	History	Mississippi Humanities Council, "Celebration Of The 50th Anniversary of the Integration of Schools In Drew, MS," Supported With Funds From The National Endowment For The Humanities, SO-50426-11, January 2015	\$1,567.00	Submitted	Funded
Rhonda C. Cooper	Political Science	Law School Admissions Council's Law School Forum Subsidy Grant to support student participation at the November 2015 Chicago, IL Forum.	\$8,129.15	Submitted	Funded
Byron D'Andra Orey	Political Science	National Science Foundation grant in order to study "The Impact of Racially Traumatic Stressful Events on Blacks' Physiological, Psychological, and Political Responses" --May 2015-April 2016.	\$170,000	Submitted	Funded
Taunjah Bell Neasman P.I. and Dawn McLinCoPI	Psychology	Jackson State University Division of Research and Federal Relations. Summer 2016 Seed Funds), "Building Better Soldiers by Applying Neuroscience Research	\$50,000	Submitted	Funded
Taunjah P. Bell Neasman, P.I.; Dawn D. Bishop McLin, Co-P.I.; Dr. Robert Blaine, Co-P.I.; Juliette Schweitzer, Co-P.I.	Psychology	Jackson State University Division of Undergraduate Studies and Cyber Learning Mini-Grant, "An Examination of the Effects of a Flipped Classroom Model on Academic Performance, Career Preparation, Psychological Variables, and Physiological Responses in Undergraduate Psychology and Engineering Majors"	\$33,664	Submitted	Funded
Laura Mcdavitt	Speech and	College teaching and learning grant from the Connect For	\$5,000	Submitted	Funded

	Theater	Education Corporation			
Marino Bruce	Criminal Justice and Sociology	HBCU Pride Program Grant #66105170515 JSU Index Code #634b50;	\$100,740	Submitted	Funded

Total for Submitted Budgets: \$7,039,356

Total for Funded Budgets:\$1,055,579

We believe that the College of Liberal Arts made great strides to attract donations from alumni and former liberal arts majors at JSU. In fact, we are the third of colleges in donations and gifts at the institution, which increased by \$85,410 from 2015 to 2016. The table below shows how much we received in 2015 and 2016.

Table 5: Donations and Gifts (2016)

College	Donor Count	OUTRIGHT GIFTS	Sponsor Program	Gift in Kind	Plan Gift	Pledge Balance	Total
College of Liberal Arts	231	\$161,345.02	\$0.00	\$49,015.90	\$100,010.00	\$86,267.84	\$396,638.76

Table 6: Donations and Gifts (2015)

College	Donor Count	OUTRIGHT GIFTS	Sponsor Program	Gift in Kind	Plan Gifts	Pledge Balance	Total
College of Liberal Arts	228	\$125,879.35	\$4,500.00	\$0.00	\$125,000.00	\$55,848.58	\$311,227.93

Source: Donations and Gifts Report provided by Development Foundation.

In the COLA, several intramural travel grants, honoraria, and conference attendance scholarships to students were received. These contributions reflect support for the professional development of both faculty and students in the COLA and correspond with the goals of the College and the University. The Center for University Scholars provided up to \$1,500.00 for travel grants for COLA faculty members who applied with a competitive project. In 2015-2016, travel grants were awarded to 12 faculty members for their participation in 17 conferences in the amount of approximately \$18,000 in the Department of English and Modern Foreign Languages. Other departments also received funding from the Center, but it appears that English and Modern Foreign Languages faculty put more effort into getting the competitive assistance. The Dean's Office in the College of Liberal Arts, provided approximately \$2,500.00 to support student travel to the NAAAS Conference, Baton Rouge, LA, where students presented research under the supervision of Ceron Bryant and to doctoral students in Clinical Psychology who presented their research at the Association of Black Psychologists, in Las Vegas, Nevada. The Department of Psychology

supported 10 doctoral students in Clinical Psychology who presented at refereed, national, regional or state professional/guild association conferences by paying their conference registration fees. Thomas Collins received honoraria from Millsaps College (\$400) and the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts as an Invited Lecturer, with an Honorarium of \$1,000. Last but not least, Laura McDavitt, in the Department of Speech and Theater, secured four \$100.00 scholarships for students to attend the Tedx Conference, Jackson, MS, November 2015.

The COLA strives to promote community engagement and is involved in activities that provide support to the citizens residing in the metropolitan area. For example, The Applied Psychological Services Clinic (APSC), a unit in the COLA through the Department of Psychology, provided psychological services to the approximately 250 JSU community and the local community citizens. The estimated value of service to the community was \$42,235.00. The APSC also initiated a fee for service mechanism using a sliding-fee scale based on client's SES. Approximately, the sum of \$6,500 in fees was collected in 2015-2016. These funds will help the Psychology Department and the College of Liberal Arts to fulfill its service mission to the university community and the public.

CONTRACTS:

No contracts were awarded to departments in the College.

PATENTS:

No patents were secured by departments in the College.

DEVELOPMENT:

The COLA has received this past academic year funding to support two endowed scholarships through the Political Science Department in the names of Professor Charles Holmes and the late Attorney Isiah Madison in the amounts of \$25,000 each and was matched by Title III funds for a total of \$100,000. The Banks, Chiles, Ford and Henderson endowed scholarship fund in Psychology, initiated by Dr. Pamela Banks, received a \$3,000 donation toward this academic year. The Jean Chamberlain Memorial Departmental Scholarship Fund was established in the Department of English and Modern Foreign Languages and has received \$500 so far. Finally, Dr. Yumi Park acquired an African Art Collection from James & Beatrice Anderson, which is valued at \$17,700. The total Development funds received by COLA this year amount to \$121,500.

III. LOW PRODUCING UNITS

Even though none of our academic units have been cited as low producing units by IHL, those with low research and grantmanship record and decreasing enrollment of majors are aware of the pressure to produce at a higher rate, recruit, enroll more students at a rate of at least 5 percent every academic year, retain them, ensure their timely graduation, and assist them in their placement following graduation. This will be achieved through pro-active and constant accurate advising by all faculty, participation in the recruitment activities held by the Division of Recruitment, departmental and college presence at the receptions for prospective, transfer, and incoming students, at formal orientation

sessions held throughout the year. Further strategies are spelled out under the section on Major Goals for Academic Year 2016-2017 and in our Roadmap.

IV. NEW AND SPECIAL INITIATIVES

The new and special initiatives of the College Liberal Arts emanate from the two major goals and objectives highlighted on p. 3 of this document. The two goals are preparing our students for future careers and providing them with the foundational academic skills along with the values they will need as human beings to live fully and meaningfully their lives. This includes acknowledging their civic and global responsibilities as well as respect for the rights of others in an environment where social injustice, bigotry, and religious intolerance have no place. The College's seven objectives include provision of foundation skills, increased enrollment numbers and timely graduation, application of technology both at work and in the classroom, increased and well-thought-out interdisciplinary and inter-collegiate collaborations, enhanced search for external funding to sustain the activities of the college, the continued effort to introduce more focused international and intercultural initiatives that will shape the competent and sensitive global citizen of the 21st century, and the road to make liberal arts education more relevant to students, parents, policy-makers, and the community.

The consensus on these goals and objectives is reflected in the various departmental proposed new initiatives, which evolve around the College's future activities, as outlined here: First is the overall recognition that *increase in enrollment and maintenance of a high retention rate* are high priorities, which will determine the continued survival of several units. In the age of fierce competition for students, recruitment, timely graduation, and their placement will determine whether or not an academic unit will survive. To this end, even our Military Science Department plans to join actively in the various initiatives designed to recruit the best students as cadets. The College will begin a biennial town hall meeting called "Face the College," where the Dean is to meet with all majors in the college in auditorium 166/266 to address them and answer their questions, stressing the need to follow protocol, understanding of the university organizational structure, and inculcate in them, what has caused so much confusion, a sense of responsibility and accountability as they pursue their degrees in the College and at Jackson State University. This will require *greater careful and committed advising*, working closely with the Division of Recruitment by joining this unit in its trips to meeting and recruiting students at high school gatherings and planned visits, welcoming transfer, transient, returning, and new students on our campus and in our college, often on weekends. The use of *technology in the classroom and in student advisement* is certainly one objective virtually all faculty share, which includes use of smart and engaging teaching in smart classrooms. In this context, the Department of History has already introduced an *online Master's degree in History, and Criminal Justice and Sociology* plan to initiate the process this coming Fall. Other units are in the process of embracing the trend.

Every unit in the College of Liberal Arts has accepted the new teaching technique that *enhances the skills acquisition of traditional* as well as non-traditional students of getting a degree or sharpening the skills they will need to adjust to a changing workforce environment. *Grantsmanship* is also seen now as a necessary component of the survival effort of all units, even though this goes against the grain of many traditional faculty and personnel, particularly in view of the fewer meaningful sources of external

funding in Liberal Arts in general, which would benefit the students in the form of scholarships, tuition waivers, and grants. *Fund raising in conjunction with the Division of Institutional Advancement* promises the opportunity of creating endowed chairs and scholarships that ultimately benefit the students we admit into our programs as majors and those that take the general education courses we teach.

Exposure to international experience through the *Passport to the World* program, specific departmental programs, ongoing curriculum revisions that include international content, designed to sensitize and educate our students about the world in which they live, which, in a true sense, is inexorably shrinking due to rapid technological and communication advances as sequels of what is often called globalization, and man's disregard for the well-being of the planet in his pursuit of pure economic benefits. Beginning Fall 2016, the College will also embark on *feasibility studies towards the introduction of a Ph.D. in Criminal Justice and Music, a Master's degree in Psychology, and an MFA in Graphic Design, beyond the already planned Ph.D. in English and Modern Foreign Languages*. This cultural studies Ph.D., an offshoot of conversations and partnerships with countries such as China, will also be complemented by the planned *Confucius Institute*, both of which will spur the study of foreign culture, history, philosophy, and languages such as Mandarin, Swahili (perhaps) Spanish, and French.

Our six Centers are eager to provide opportunities to *all students to study and live history vicariously through the lives of artists, musicians, and performers, and help the surrounding community through targeted activities*. We would like, for example, to make our Margaret Walker Center a place that will attract renowned scholars who will come and conduct research in its archives and help advance the name of JSU, putting it not only on the national but also on the world map. *Our idea of a College Day*, a day and time when we reflect on the meaning and function of a college of liberal arts, which we might say it is under assault as irrelevant, the *national and international conferences* we are planning for the future, beginning in Fall 2016, an *emphasis on data collection and analysis* in the college designed to spur sound decisions, and the *creation of a nucleus of faculty or a think-tank, as the engine of innovations* learned from other institutions *and the current trends* in colleges of liberal arts, are an important part of the vision of the college leadership, which has been submitted as priorities to Academic Affairs and as the roadmap for the future of the College of Liberal Arts at Jackson State University.

In order to spur learning, the College is planning a *professorial lecture at the beginning of the academic year*, at which occasion all those faculty who have achieved the rank of tenured Professor, dressed in their professorial academic regalia, will address the entire college about the meaning of this phase in the life of the scholar in an attempt to inspire those who aspire to climb up to the apex of their academic life. The need for heightened participation of faculty in college activities that will improve the academic environment is a major undertaking that will create a better intellectual atmosphere, stirring intellectual debate and making our college an academy where ideas are discussed freely and freedom of expression is a reality. These objectives, aspirations, and vision are only a backdrop in the ocean of ideas where the sky is the limit and will render our college more relevant, exciting, and productive.

V. AWARDS AND SPECIAL RECOGNITION/DISTINCTIONS

Given the College of Liberal Arts' commitment to excellence, its faculty have been highly recognized by Jackson State University and local and national communities. Their work has led to promotions, appointments, performances and awards. Four (4) faculty members were awarded tenure and promotion. Three (3) faculty members were granted Graduate Faculty status. Several others, such as Brian Phillips in English, who served as the Editor of the online Journal *H. Cervantes Commons*, were appointed to boards or the editorship of a discipline-specific journal. Three (3) faculty members were inducted into national honor societies. Additionally, Dr. Candis Pizzetta, from the College of Liberal arts, was appointed Director of the Center for University Scholars.

The University has recognized the accomplishments of at least six (6) faculty members through the Athletics Department's "Professor of the Game" honor, the JSU Excellence Awards for Teaching, Research and Service, and Graduation Marshalls' selection. In English and Modern Foreign Languages, Dr. McDaniels was appointed to the College Language Association as HBCU Committee Chair. The Mississippi Institute of Arts and Letters announced Dr. Robert Lockett as Nonfiction Achievement Finalist (2016) for his book and he received an award for his *Joe T. Patterson and The White South's Dilemma* from the Association of African American Museums. He was also honored with a Pace Setter Award (2015) Exceptional Innovation and Dedication to African American Museums by the Mississippi Historical Records Advisory Board and the Mississippi's History Award of Excellence (2015) as Director and Chronicler of the Margaret Walker Center.

Throughout the community and beyond the campus, faculty have received awards for their performances in the Alabama Shakespeare Festival Southern Writers' Project, the National Association of Dramatic and Speech Arts Conference, the Alcorn Jazz Festival, and the Annual Honda Battle of the Bands, among others. Their accomplishments have landed them on the pages of such periodicals as *The Jackson Free Press* (MADDRAMA, "Best Local Live Theater"), *Boom Jackson*, *HBCU Buzz Magazine* (our Marching Band voted #1), and our Military Science cadets, who were featured in the *National Rocks Army Officer Magazine*. The cadets have also received acknowledgement from the City of Jackson, Hinds County, the Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture and from former President Bill Clinton. While the String Ensemble performed with the JSU Orchestra and the Mississippi Orchestra, the Marching Band was featured in a commercial for Mississippi Tourism Commission. Last but not least, Prince Duren was selected as Artist-in-Residence by the Alabama Shakespeare Festival Southern Writers' Project. Dr. Bodie-Smith was selected to attend the HBCU Inclusion Leadership Summit, held in Washington, D.C., October 2016.

VI. ENROLLMENT DATA

Arguably, enrollment is the engine of any institution of higher learning, the reason why recruitment and retention have become such critical and competitive issues in the academy. Competing with the eight sister institutions under IHL supervision, Jackson State University has done well over the past five years

when, for the first time, this became one of the many institutional priorities, reflected in the unprecedented growth it has experienced, almost reaching the goal of 10,000 students in Fall 2015.

ENROLLMENT:

The College of Liberal Arts continues to be the academic heart of Jackson State University. Our record of excellence is also evident in enrollment, marketing strategies, retention, graduation rates, and student placement. Fall enrollment increased more than 5%, from 1,733 in 2014, to 1,829 in 2015, and our overall retention rate increased from 74.6% to 79.7%. Unfortunately, the Spring 2016 enrollment declined to 1,347 due primarily to the departure of Mass Communication (233 students enrolled Fall 2015) see table below), otherwise the number for academic year 2015-2016 would have been 3,409, a net gain of 32 students over the previous academic year. Adjusting for their departure for a new School (Journalism and Media Studies), our decline would be 6.83%, which we will have to recover. However, our freshmen retention rate was still high: 92.5%. We know that increased enrollment and retention rates may be attributed to strategic marketing, such as brochures, letters, social media, exhibits, school visits, and Tiger Day at elementary schools, and targeted on-campus activities, such as workshops, summer camps, enrichment programs, and College Day, all of which promote student involvement. We plan to utilize these strategies to the fullest extent in the future.

Table 6: Enrollment, Retention, Graduation and Placement
Source: Division of Institutional Research, Planning, and Assessment

CLA Units	Fall 2015	Spring 2016	Total Reported	Retention	Graduation	Placement
Art	139	134	Not reported	Not reported	23	Not reported
CJ and Sociology	528	455		Not reported	106	Not reported
English & MFL	140	115		Not reported	38	19
History and Philosophy	52	78	59	Not reported	12	3
Mass Communication	233	Left CLA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Military Science	NA	NA	NA	99%	100%	10
Music	163	146	140	Not reported	20	4
Political Science	89	97	86	100%	22	3

Psychology	303	274	349	Not reported	50	Not reported
Speech and Theatre	49	48	65	98%	Not reported	Not reported
Totals	1,693	1,347		*74.6%	271	39

*However, numbers from Institutional Research does not reflect the numbers submitted by Department Chairs.

RECRUITMENT/PROGRAM MARKETING STRATEGIES:

Following are some of the recruitment and marketing strategies that have been implemented and will continue to be applied by the College of Liberal Arts, some being more appropriate and effective according to discipline:

- Use of Internet, former students, and the various programs we attend for recruitment
- Foreign Languages Fair
- High School Day
- Liberal Arts Day
- Transfer Student Day
- Department brochures (updates coming) distribution at events
- Community college fairs
- Direct contact with students who have high grades in ENG 104, 105, and 205
- Working with Social Studies departments of local public schools to recruit potential teacher education majors
- Identifying promising undergraduates at JSU
- Publicizing the program at HBCUs
- Using Websites of COFO and Margaret Walker Centers to advertise the MA program
- All Ensemble conductors, area coordinators, and Chair of the Department of Music sending letters to high school ensemble directors and music supervisors requesting recommendations of students from their music programs (last academic year, this strategy *resulted in the enrollment of 45 students*)
- Joining JSU recruiters on recruitment trips
- Participate in on-campus visits by high school students and community college students.
- Coordinating visits to the State's two-year colleges through JSU's Office of Community Colleges.
- Requesting to establish a Political Science recruitment day at JSU-Holmes Community College in Ridgeland
- Hosting recruitment activities with current Political Science majors
- Providing virtual tour of JSU at a high school in Chicago, IL, where many families have roots in Mississippi
- Participating in the College Day events, Honors on the Plaza, and campus visits to Southern University
- Link MADDRAMMA touring program to recruitment
- Making attractive presentations to undecided students enrolled in University Success

- Making a pitch at special high school performances of departmental productions on Thursday and Friday mornings during the run of the show
- Preparing and show a departmental recruitment video.

RETENTION:

The Division of Institutional Research estimates that the retention rate for the College of Liberal Arts for Fall 2014 through Fall 2015 was 74.6%. In 2015-2016, the College's retention effort reached face-to-face over 1,000 students experiencing academic difficulties, attendance issues, or personal problems affecting their ability to comply with university policies and put a serious effort into their study, do well, and graduate timely. Specifically, the strategies employed to reach and assist students through the Dean's retention personnel and have included:

- Offering a Time Management Workshop with the Jackson State University Marching Band
- Addressing the students on the issue of academic success with English and Modern Foreign Languages
- Holding a Rights and Responsibilities Workshop with the Art Department
- Assuring students that we advocated on their behalf
- Providing information on all campus resources available to them, consistently advising them as to why and how to maintain academic good standing, their scholarships, and their financial aid.

Student retention in the College is often aggravated by lack of scholarships to offer, even when the student might need only \$300-\$400 to complete a degree, especially in a graduate program (Some units simply help the student by faculty contributing funds out of their own pocket). We also know that our advising system must improve and be accurate. Besides these problems, improved communication among the faculty, staff, and students must improve as well, and class attendance policies must be clarified because faculty are often either too liberal or too inflexible in their interpretation.

GRADUATION:

The College of Liberal Arts had 44 students who completed their graduate program and 244 undergraduate students who graduated in Spring 2016 for a total of 288 degrees conferred. There was a major difference in the number of undergraduate students who graduated in Fall 2015 (78 students) compared to those who completed the degree in Spring 2016 (244 students). The number of 288 compares well with that of 283 in academic year 2015-2016, an increase of 2.12% in the total graduation number during the 2016 Spring semester, notwithstanding that 233 students moved to the new School of Journalism and Media Studies that Spring semester. For the graduate programs, the difference was only the graduation of two students (for a total of 42), with the two extra graduating in Spring 2016 over Spring 2015. Note that no graduate programs are offered in Speech Communication and Theater, Military Science, and Art. Psychology offers a bachelor's degree and a Ph.D. (the only doctoral degree in the College of Liberal Arts) but not a Master's degree program.

PLACEMENT:

In the area of placement, the College of Liberal Arts has room for improvement with only 17% of graduates being placed though many choose to pursue a graduate or professional degree, which include law school, M.A. and PhD programs, and various fields such as film and theater, The Federal Bureau of Prisons, Mississippi Museum of Art, public school systems, the electronic and print media, WLBT TV station in Jackson being one example, police departments, and more. Many of our students complete their degree at JSU and go on to enroll in a graduate or professional degree in the country. For example, six students in English and Modern Foreign Languages were accepted in graduate school in such institutions as Louisiana State University, Northwestern University, and Georgia State University (three in the Ph.D., Program, two in Law, and one in an MFA program). Four other graduates of Jackson State University just finished their graduate degrees in Law, an MS or MA, a Ph.D., and the Ed.D., at such institutions as the University of Mississippi Law School, Ohio State University, St. Mary's College, and one is employed the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. However, many go straight into careers once they have completed their bachelor's degree at JSU but may not be employed in their specific area of training.

Unfortunately, tracking our students after graduation has not received priority in the College of Liberal Arts. We plan to do better in the years to come with the Exit Interviews and by coordinating our efforts with Placement, Alumni, and the Registrar, at least for the students who decide to pursue graduate studies at JSU. Finally, we might mention that JSU alumnus, Mezzo-Soprano Gedeane Graham, will complete the master of music degree in vocal performance at Michigan State University in Spring 2016. She has been accepted in the Doctor of Musical Arts Program at Indiana University, Bloomington, with specialization in opera and concert performance beginning in Fall 2016. Another JSU Music alumnus, Soprano Briana Sheriff, has been accepted into New York University's Master of Music program with a musical theatre specialization for Fall 2016. However, although we do not have accurate figures, by our experience-based estimates, we think that fewer than 10 percent of our students decide to pursue further studies and less than 20 percent find employment in the specific areas they studied, a common phenomenon in liberal arts education, with the exception, perhaps, of Criminal Justice and Sociology and Military Science.

OTHER:

This year, many students did not apply for graduation in time or still had service hours to complete after graduation and were not able to appear in the official commencement graduation booklet. Therefore, the numbers of graduates appearing in commencement exercises must be taken with a grain of salt as a result of the noted differences.

VII. STUDENT SUCCESS

The College of Liberal Arts has close to 100 full-time and part-time faculty from nine Departments: Art, Criminal Justice and Sociology, English and Modern Foreign Languages, History and Philosophy, Music, Military Science, Political Science, Psychology, and Speech Communication and Theater, and fulfills its mission by teaching and providing skills to more than 3,200 students a semester. The number of its majors was about 1,500 in academic year 2015-2016.

INTERNSHIPS:

The College of Liberal Arts has had many successes in placing its students in internships. However, since only a few departments, Speech Communication and Theater, Psychology, and Military Science, require internships, the number of annual interns is small, even though some units, such as History, Political Science, Criminal Justice, and English have sent a few and willing students for further hands-on training experience at institutions, museums, the legislature, and the print and electronic media. While Art has had two interns, one at the Mississippi Museum of Art for the summer, and another at the Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture, Criminal Justice had an intern with the US Marshal Service and the Mississippi Secretary of State's office. The Department of English and Modern Foreign Languages had three interns: one with the NAACP, one with *Vibe Magazine* in New York, the Visitors' Bureau in New Orleans, and the other with the pre-law program at the University of Arkansas.

Whereas Political Science placed a graduate intern with the Mississippi Legislature, Psychology succeeded in placing all its eight doctoral students in AAA accredited internships, and five others were accepted in APA accredited Clinical Psychology internships to be offered this Summer (2016). This is a very competitive process, where 5,000 students applied for 2,000 slots. A 100 percent rate for the Department of Psychology is spectacular and suggestive of the high quality of training of our doctoral students. Another Psychology student was accepted as an intern at the MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston, Texas, for Summer 2016. Finally, Bennie Walker in Speech Communication and Theater served as a six-month paid intern with FedEx in Memphis, Tennessee. History and Philosophy accepts at least two graduate and several undergraduate students as interns and so does the Margaret Walker Center. Two students in the Department of Music are temporarily teaching pedagogy and marching techniques the local student bands at the Blue Fields Indian University in Nicaragua.

AWARDS:

We must note at the outset that the College of Liberal Arts needs to do better in tracking the trajectory of its students following graduation, as the information it has so far in this category is minimal, except for the Departments of English and Modern Foreign Languages, Art, and Speech Communication and Theater. A summary of known awards is presented below:

In Art, Chris Skipper (Painting) was winner of the "Best of Show Mississippi Collegiate Art Competition 2016" in Jackson. We are also proud that the College of Liberal Arts recommended Brittany Calhoun to Academic Affairs as the candidate for the 2016 National UNCF Achievement Capstone Scholarship, while Daria Butorina was employed as a Teaching Fellow at the Mississippi Museum of Art in Jackson. In Criminal Justice and Sociology, Trevarious Taylor and Brian Warren were commissioned as Second Lieutenants in the Army, an honor that was enhanced by the selection of Diane Blue as a member of the Jackson State University's 2016 Honda All-Star Challenge Team. The English and Modern Foreign Languages Department had the following number of honored students based on their high GPA during academic year 2015-2016: Summa Cum Laude Graduates: 2; Magna Cum Laude Graduates: 4; Cum Laude Graduates: 3; Sigma Tau Delta Inductees: 10; Alpha Mu Gamma Inductees: 8; and Kimberly Lewis,

Commencement Marshal. Bianca Young was nominated by the Mississippi Association of Colleges of Teacher Education (MACTE) for the 2015-2016 Outstanding Teacher Candidate Award. According to the commencement program, the College of Liberal Arts had the largest number of *summa cum laude* students among the colleges: 11 (*Spring Commencement*, 2016: 82). We are proud of this academic achievement.

History and Philosophy successfully submitted Brittany Calhoun as an intern to the Smithsonian Institution National Museum of African American History and Culture, which awarded her \$4,000 in Spring 2016. Student Researcher Iasia Collins, who presented a paper titled "Civil Rights, It's Happening Now" at COFO in Fall 2015, was a recipient of a \$500 award. The College was also pleased that, in Political Science, Jasmine Jackson, a junior, was selected as a participant in the Summer Research Program Symposium at the University of California at Irvine for Summer 2015, at Princeton University's Public Policy Institute, and the American Political Science Association's Ralph Bunche Summer Institute at Duke University for Summer 2016. She was also selected for the APSA award for Summer 2016. Psychology student Estephany Bologna, supervised and mentored by Dr. Kay Sly, was a finalist at SEPA for a graduate research award.

In Speech Communication and Theater, the successes are worth noting: Dylan Fleming, 2015 graduate, won the Best Actor award in the MFA Program at Catholic University of America this year. Our students also received recognition at the National Association of Dramatic and Speech Arts Conference: Playwright, 1st place (Breyiona Flowers); 2nd place (Davonta Thomas); Honorable Mention (Jarielle Gibson); Oral Interpretation of Poetry, 3rd place (Joseph Henderson); Oral Interpretation of Prose, 2nd place (Shaina Hilton); Dramatic Monologue; 1st place (Natosha Barron); and Duo-Action, 1st place (Deshadrian Hopkins), and Jamarion Wright, 2nd place in Reader's Theatre. We might finally mention that in Military Science, forty-five (45) students, all ROTC cadets, won room and board scholarships. Of notice is also the fact that alumna Ashlei Murray, Speech Communication and Theater major, has been contracted as a playlist performer with Carnival Cruise Line Entertainment.

RECOGNITIONS:

The Department of Art touts its successes in having seven of its students on the President's List, while 32 made the Dean's List. Music has had a plethora of recognition examples for its students this year: Mitchel Dortch and Caleb Liddell at the Mississippi Museum of Art were recognized for the MSO Annual Students' composition reading event sponsored by the Mississippi Symphony. Soprano Christie Beasley, a 2016 graduate of the Master of Music Education Degree program, has been hired as the New Choral Director at Vicksburg High School. She will begin her career in Fall 2016. Soprano Hillary Watkins, junior Vocal Performance major, auditioned among hundreds of applicants this year and was selected to perform in Mozart's Opera, *Die Zauberflöte*, at the International Lyric Academy in Rome and Viterbo, Italy, in the summer of 2016. Hillary has been cast as "The First Lady" and she will also perform as a soloist in several concerts and recitals.

Soprano Kayla Wilson, a sophomore vocal performance major, auditioned among hundreds of applicants this year and has been selected to participate as an Opera Young Artist in Georgia State University's

Harrower Summer Opera Workshop on May 30-June 19, 2016. Kayla has been cast as "Fortuna" in Monteverdi's "L'Incoronazione Di Poppea" and "Consuelo" in West Side Story by Leonard Bernstein. Soprano Aja Brimm, sophomore vocal performance major, auditioned among hundreds of applicants this year and has been selected to participate as an Opera Studio Artist in Georgia State University's Harrower Summer Opera Workshop on May 30-June 19th, 2016.

Furthermore, on April 20, 2016, JSU Alumnus, Bass Edwin Davis, was featured in Mozart's Opera Singspiel, Die Entführung Aus Dem Serail at the Manhattan School of Music in New York. The Opera reviewer from Voice Di Meche of New York commented that "Bass Edwin Davis impressed us with his portrayal of the comically nasty Osmin, servant to the Pasha. He so immersed himself in the role that it never seemed like acting. It would have been a mesmerizing performance if he had never sung a note; but his booming room-filling voice as marvelously employed to serve the role. The difficult third Act Aria 'Ha, Wie Will Ich Triumphieren,' contains some of the lowest notes in the bass repertoire and he nailed them." Significant was the recognition of our students in Criminal Justice and Sociology by the Jackson City Council, which passed a resolution recognizing the achievements of Second Lt. Trevarious Taylor and Lt. Brian Warren for outstanding accomplishments in the Jackson University's Army ROTC Program in May 2015. Also honored was Corey Palmer for completing the City of Jackson Department's Police Academy in 2015. It is interesting to note that the Director of the Police Academy in Jackson, Herman Horton, is also a graduate of Jackson State University.

VIII. PROGRAM QUALITY/ENHANCEMENTS

The College of Liberal Arts at Jackson State University has embarked on a number of enhancements to its program quality including new or re-accreditation affirmation, departmental self-studies, scholarly peer review work, graduate program reviews, mandated curricular revisions, and other initiatives. The College has taken the third year reviews seriously, and faculty who perform unsatisfactorily in this phase of promotion and tenure are clearly warned about the likelihood of failure to be promoted and tenured or both. The Dean's office has done its best to urge departments to follow strictly the policies and guidelines when they are searching for new faculty to ensure that the process is fair but also rigorous to hire quality faculty. Each unit is also keenly aware of the need to control the quality of online courses. The Chairs are scrutinized carefully on the qualifications of the pool of applicants in the Division of Human Resources and will continue to monitor faculty who teach our classes away from daily departmental supervision. On the curriculum, every department in Liberal Arts completed its curriculum revisions in 2013-2014. However, Chairs and faculty know that curriculum reviews are an ongoing process. At this juncture, the emphasis is on sharpening the teaching of foundation skills and their application in the classroom and outside the classroom, interdisciplinary offerings of courses with interdisciplinary approaches and internationalized content. Our renewed and explicit emphasis on grantmanship is ultimately designed to strengthen the quality of all programs in the College through provision of further resources for professional development and fulfillment of the criteria for promotion and tenure.

To further guarantee program quality, various departments followed professional standards in their field or the accreditation guidelines of their accrediting agency during the 2015-2016 year, including:

- Department of Art : the National Association for Schools of Art and Design (NASAD) Accreditation
- Department of English: the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education standards (NCATE)
- Modern Foreign Languages: Re-accreditation, English Education Program
- Department of History and Philosophy: the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) for the BS degree
- Department of Music: the National Association of Schools of Music (NASM) Accreditation (coming up for re-accreditation in two years)
- Department Political Science: the American Political Science Association and the National Conference of Black Political Scientists Professional Standards (not an accrediting body)
- Department of Psychology: the American Psychological Association (APA) Clinical Psychology Program approval (2nd HBCU nationally that offers an accredited Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology) 3rd site visit for re-accreditation since 1995 to occur on June 6-7, 2016
- Department of Speech Communication and Theater: National Association of Communication and Theater, which provides the professional standards (Not an accrediting body) and the National Association of Schools of Theatre.

Several departments (History and Philosophy, Criminal Justice and Philosophy, and Political Science) in the College of Liberal Arts have undergone and completed their self-studies and external review (2013-2015). Dean Gardner, in consultation with the Chairs, determines the units that are next in the schedule for external review.

LESSONS LEARNED FROM THE REVIEW OF THE THREE DEPARTMENTS IN THE COLLEGE

The reviews of the graduate programs in History and Philosophy, Criminal Justice and sociology, and Political Science revealed the strengths of these units but also exposed the challenges facing all of them

In the Department of History and Philosophy both strengths and weaknesses were analyzed. While continuing to provide the basic and graduate academic and professional skills expected of any student who attends a Liberal Arts institution, the Department of History and Philosophy has been in existence for over 40 years and has graduated over 100 M.A. students who have joined the workforce as government employees, business leaders, lawyers, teachers, and university professors. This department has a distinguished history of experience that makes it an integral and indispensable part of Jackson State University, serving the whole state of Mississippi and the Southern Region, where a Master's Degree in History, especially at its HBCUs, is an exception. While fulfilling its critical role in the College of Liberal Arts and proving its endurance in the face of dwindling student enrollment figures as common at most similar institutions and programs, the College is a repository of considerable experience that will help overcome any obstacles in the way and allow the department to thrive in the midst of problems that, over the decades, and nationally, have plagued most programs in the social sciences, the humanities, and the fine and performing arts. Challenges, just like in most other units, are many. Some are related to student enrollment in several graduate classes, a reality that has forced the department to combine a good number of graduate and undergraduate classes to meet the required minimum enrollment.

Other challenges include the replacement of faculty members when they leave, retire, or die, which has shrunk the number of full-time faculty; and the small number of full professors, now only one, and tenure-track faculty, has slowly handicapped the department over the years, forcing it to employ many part-time instructors. The absence of meaningful diversity among students, most of whom come from rural Mississippi and act as the feeder to the graduate program, has provided less visibility and little cultural mix among students. While the paucity of external grants has hurt the department as it tries to meet scholarly responsibilities both in the classroom and in the open academic arena, it has faced a constant uphill "Battle" to secure added opportunities for faculty and students to attend and present at conferences. Likewise, the competition for internal funding as a means of professional development and attracting bright students nationally and internationally has remained a difficult road to travel.

The review team recommended securing a greater range of academic profile data on graduate students as part of an ongoing effort to assess and monitor the quality of admitted students. The department worked closely with the Dean's office in the College of Liberal Arts and the graduate school to create new funding streams for student research and conference travel. Additionally, the review encouraged the department to work with alumni to create a fund for student professional development.

To recruit and retain the best students and to become more competitive among its peer institutions, just as is the case in all departments in the College, the department must offer more graduate assistantships, including tuition waivers. Furthermore, the review team encouraged the department to explore additional avenues for shared programming and interdisciplinary collaboration. In particular, partnerships with the Mississippi Department of Archives and History, the forthcoming Mississippi Civil Rights Museum and Museum of Mississippi History, and Gallery 1 could become valuable fora for conducting or exhibiting research.

The review team recommended that the department implement an exit survey for all graduating seniors to learn about their career plans and placements. Additionally, the department will create next year and manage an alumni database to track students' careers and interests after they leave JSU. Other developments in the Department of History and Philosophy include adding a new faculty member, Dr. Kofi Barima, who began full-time in the department in January 2016, replacing Bonnie Gardner who retired after 31 years of service to the Department.

Thus, History and Philosophy has developed a plan of action to meet its challenges and plans to enhance faculty productivity through various innovative practices and policies, including release-time if feasible; supporting, through policy, those who present at conferences; instituting a better advising system, which has become a priority in response to the Dean's goals and objectives beginning this Spring; retaining and helping students to complete their degrees in a timely manner; actively assisting students to enroll in the graduate program by enticing them with exciting and relevant, unfettered, information on history and philosophy, and international experience opportunities; increasing the number of evening, week-end, and on-line classes to serve the growing number of non-traditional students; serving as enthusiastic and caring models both in and outside the classroom; preparing students for interviews and teaching them how to design a Curriculum Vitae; intellectually engaging and challenging them

through professional presentations and classroom engagement; and making faculty and administrators completely available to students, as they are trained to become future professionals.

The Department of Political Science also conducted a self-study of its Master of Arts Program in Fall 2015. A substantive external review was conducted by a peer group of political scientists with highly respected and regarded national reputations in the discipline. The Department has been implementing the proposed changes since Fall Semester 2015. Similarly, the Department of Psychology and Dr. Bryman Williams worked diligently with its self-study team, comprised of Drs. Pamela Banks, Debra Sue Pate, Kaye Sly and Jacqueline Reese-Smith. Together, they produced a response narrative to the Commission of Accreditation for the American Psychological Association in preparation for the June 2016 site visit. The Department of Speech Communication and Theater has begun planning for a self-study in upcoming years.

During the 2015-2016 year, the graduate curriculum in the Department of Music was reviewed, and a new course of study was developed. Finally, in the Department of Psychology, analysis of the data from departmental exit exams shows that during the Fall of 2015, 35 psychology majors completed the exam, and 66% of the students passed. During the Spring 2016 semester, 24 students took the exam, and all 24 passed. Review of the Graduating Senior Exit Survey showed that the overall mean for the Department of Psychology was 4.3 on a 5.0 scale. Perceptions by graduating seniors who completed the survey (n=25) were deemed very favorable, with a significant number of respondents rating the Department as "Excellent." Students continue to request increased research training.

IX. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The College of Liberal Arts wishes to let it be known that, at present,

- It is actively preparing for its conference, "(Re)Defining Liberal Arts Education in the 21st Century," scheduled for October 6-8, 2016.
- Many departments are in the process of hiring new faculty (i.e., English, History and Philosophy, and Psychology)
- Former Professor and Chair of the Department of Criminal Justice and Sociology, Dr. Thomas C. Calhoun, who also served as Associate Dean and Interim Dean in the College, and now as Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs, was the recipient of the North Central Sociological Association's J. Milton Yinger Lifetime Distinguished Career Award (March 2016).
- Mandarin Chinese courses (CH 101 and 102) were taught by Mr. Yuanjia Liu, a Fulbright Scholar via JSU Global, which will strengthen the goals of the Confucius Institute to be implemented beginning Fall 2016.
- Dean Azevedo. Historian and Dean, chaired the Undergraduate Task Force on Dual Degrees and Double Majors towards formulation of a clear policy on the issue.
- Dean Azevedo was Co-Chair of the Faculty and Staff Fall Seminar Team in 2016
- A new Associate Dean has been recommended to start her responsibilities in August 2016.
- Dr. Candis Pizzetta from English and Modern Foreign Languages was named Director of the Center for University Scholars.

- Professors D’Andra Orey and Rickey Hill from Political Science provided political analysis to both print and broadcast media on a variety of political issues, including the 2015-2016 presidential campaigns.
- Dr. Evelyn J. Leggette, trained as an English major (B.A., Rust College), has been appointed permanent Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs
- The College celebrated the retirement of Dr. Richard Chiles in Psychology, Dr. Herd Graves in English, Ken Jefferson in Political Science, and
- The College plans to review all its methods and statistics classes to ascertain whether or not some may be overlapping and should therefore be collapsed or cross-listed to save resources and ensure cost-effective approaches.

X. SUMMARY

It is hoped that this report proved the point that, despite its shortcomings and great needs, as noted below, the College of Liberal Arts is vibrant, productive, in great morale, and ready to embrace the trends that leading institutions and similar colleges in the implementation of new initiatives are intent on implementing. Specifically, this past academic year we emphasized that:

- The College of Liberal Arts must continue to implement innovative teaching strategies in the classroom, in attempt to make its programs more relevant, and the delivery of content more effective and engaging.
- Departments should continue to work to increase enrollment by at least 5 percent every year
- Productivity in research and grantmanship, even though it is occurring at a steady rate in the College, must continue to grow.
- Notwithstanding the outstanding student achievements in the various departments noted in this annual report, more data should be collected and analyzed by the Rapid Response Team created by the Dean on graduation and retention rates and placement following graduation.
- Despite the fact that faculty have also actively provided service to their department, the college, the University, and the community, they still need to reinforce the policies and university practices and strive to be better student advisors.

XI. MAJOR GOALS FOR ACADEMIC YEAR 2016-2017

The following are some of the non-prioritized major goals for academic year 2016-2017 as reported by the consensus among all departments in the College in Liberal Arts:

- Increase enrollment by 5 percent over the next five years and improve as well the retention rate by 5 percent, as noted in the Roadmap
- Hold an informative and challenging National Conference on “(Re)Defining Liberal Arts Education in the 21st Century,” at JSU, October 6-8, 2016
- Develop and increase online degree programs ensuring that all departments offer the same well during the next five years
- Develop and implement Master’s degree Programs in Psychology and a Ph.D. in Criminal Justice and Sociology, Music, and a Master of Fine Art in Graphic Design within the next

three years (these academic units have enough student majors to warrant further advanced degrees)

- Hire permanent Chairs for Music, Art, and English and Modern Foreign Languages
- Fill positions lines in Criminal Justice (one), English and Modern foreign Languages (three existing lines), Music (two), Political Science (one), and Speech Communication and Theater (four), at an estimated cost of \$450,000, pending availability of resources, as outlined in the Priorities document submitted to Academic Affairs
- Improve research and scholarly productivity through publications in first- and second-tier journals by at least 3 percent per tenured and tenure-track faculty
- Make a concerted effort to seek external funding: The expectation often announced to the faculty in College meetings being that each faculty would always be engaged in some fund seeking project on a disciplinary, interdisciplinary, or college level, through strong partnerships at home and abroad
- Secure more funding for students (by increasing the number of proposals submitted and amount funded) (this goal will be enhanced by further grantsmanship work, donations, and University funding)
- Continue hiring new and qualified faculty through the use of rigorous selection criteria, clearly defined by University policies and departmental professional standards
- Improve faculty development by providing further resources from the College and the institution
- Move the Department of Speech Communication and Theater to Dollye M.E. Robinson Building to join its sister departments (at an estimated cost of \$75,000 for remodeling the first floor)
- Strengthen the Centers through funding and more relevant activities that benefit students, scholars, and the community, always keeping in mind that JSU is primarily an urban university designated by the Carnegie Foundation as a Higher Research Activity Institution

Finally, we would like to note that the College of Liberal Arts will continue to engage the theme of relevance and transformation of liberal arts education through institutional, national, and international conferences and other activities such as a College Day, as outlined in the College Roadmap. The College will continue to work harder towards engaging the community in our urban setting, especially through the activities of our six centers and Institutes, which this past academic year served some 10,000scholars, students, and the public.

OTHER: COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS CENTERS

Our Centers continue to be vibrant, relevant both to the University, and the community, as the following analysis demonstrates.

THE MARGARET WALKER CENTER:

The Margaret Walker Center, staffed by a personnel of five under Director Dr. Robert Lockett and archivist Angela Stewart, experienced its greatest success this year. The Center's goals are to grow the number of researchers and visitors to the center, celebrate the Margaret Walker's achievements, the upcoming Centennial, and the 50th Anniversary of *Jubilee*, digitize its oral history collections, grow its Endowment and Developmental Foundation accounts, develop an exhibit about Margaret Walker Alexander, and acquire federal grants to finance it. The Center has complemented classroom work for our students by inviting faculty and students to come and acquaint themselves with the resources it offers and take the opportunity to conduct research for theses, dissertations, projects, and class assignments. Dr. Lockett, a scholar who just had his books published by the University Press of Mississippi, has made the Center a site of numerous teaching, scholarly, and service activities through lectures and conferences, all open to the public. For example, on April 15 and 16, 2016, during the 10th Annual Creative Arts Festival at JSU, the Center attracted some 537 visitors through 52 student presentations, who represented five universities, colleges, community colleges, and one high school, across 16 concurrent sessions, featuring civil rights leader Joan Trumpauer Mulholland as the speaker. Its record also included several juried exhibits, which attracted *89 researchers* to the physical collections. More significantly, since July 1, 2015, online researchers have totaled *1,855 from 75 different countries* worldwide who have logged 2,097 sessions and 3,946 page views, underscoring the importance of the Center's digital collections. In terms of visitors, from July 2015 to April 2016, the Center attracted 4,324 visitors and conducted 20 public programs for the entire JSU community, including the departmental, college, University, and broader community levels. Attendance at its regular programs totaled 2,879 people.

Activities held by the Center in 2015-2016: 20 programs, which included:

- Holtzclaw Lecture and Reception
- The 10th Annual Creative Arts Festival, at which a \$1,000 prize was awarded to the student who wrote the best essay on "The Black Experience in the American South"
- The 46th Gibbs Green Memorial and Candlelight Vigil on the Gibbs Green Memorial Plaza
- Yazoo Revisited Documentary Screening at the JSU Student Center Theater
- Mississippi Governor's Arts Awards
- Poetry Out Loud
- Dream on Documentary
- The 48th Martin Luther King Birthday Convocation
- For My People Awards Luncheon
- Joe T. Patterson and the White South's Dilemma
- Jackson/vedo was Co-Chair of the Faculty and Seminar Hinds Library System
- Milestones in Memory
- Nikki Skies
- A Class Apart
- Aron and Karen Primack African Art Collection
- Mississippi Book Festival
- Sterling Plump and Patrick Oliver
- Margaret Walker Centennial Gala Celebration

To sustain itself, the Center has received grants totaling \$12,000 from the Mississippi Arts Commission and the Mississippi Humanities Council. It has a proposal of \$388,576 before the National Endowment for the Humanities, and is in the process of developing a Margaret Walker Center Endowment of \$972,953.56.

Major Goals for Academic Year 2016-2017: The Center intends to continue to strengthen attainment of its goals of attracting more researchers and visitors, fully celebrate the 50th anniversary of *Jubilee*, which will be published by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt with a foreword by Nikki Giovanni in e-book form; search funding for the employment of its own oral historian; digitize all collections; grow an endowment; and develop a major exhibition about Margaret Walker Alexander through outside funding. The ultimate objective is to make the Center an intellectual and a community resource where scholars and activists from all over the globe come and intern to conduct research and learn not just about the life of Margaret Alexander Walker but also, through primary sources, delve into the course and meaning of the civil rights movement in Mississippi and the nation. More funding from the University and Institutional Development would therefore make this target attainable and worthy, particularly now, given JSU's new designation by the Carnegie Foundation as a Higher Research Activity Institution.

THE DRUG AND ALCOHOL STUDIES CENTER:

This Center's mission is to promote awareness of the harms that drug and alcohol abuse may cause in individuals and provides counseling and advice on how to prevent an environment where excessive drugs and alcohol consumption is detrimental to the individual and the community. The Center's service is taken seriously by the members of this unit. Its service during 2015-2016 was extensive at all levels of the University and beyond. Following is a sampling of the services rendered at the University, in the community, and in the profession.

Community Health Program: Project S.A.F.E. (Sensible Action for Empowerment) activities and outcomes for academic 2015-2016:

- Total number Tested: 261
 - Total preliminary positives: 1
 - Total males: 116
 - Total females: 145
- Total number of Peer Health Educators: 5
- Total number of Peer Health Educator Meetings: 14
 - Average attending: 4
- Total number "Kisses & Condom" bags distributed: 625
- Total number of Outreach events (both SAFE sponsored & Non SAFE sponsored): 12
 - Back to school Awareness event Aug 25, 2015
 - "Light up the Night"/Jackson Revival Center Church/Health Awareness event
 - Halloween event/"Don't Get TRICKED by your TREAT"/Testing Recruitment & Awareness event/ Dorms
 - World AIDS Day testing event, Tuesday, December 1

- National Black HIV Awareness Day testing event, Friday, February 5
- Valentine’s HIV Awareness event “Love Shouldn’t Kill,” Friday, February 12
- Annual Party on The Plaza/April Fools “Don’t get FOOLED by their Tool” Awareness event

THE RICHARD WRIGHT CENTER:

One-to-one, face-to-face conversations with students is the method supported by the theory of rhetoric and composition and used by all effective writers and communicators and by 101 top writing centers in the nation (Isaacs & Knight, 2014).

The Richard Wright Center is an example of another auxiliary unit that provides considerable opportunities for students and faculty to improve their writing skills. In 2015-2016, it provided support to student writers through the following activities:

One-to-one conversations	1,196
By appointment	736
Walk-in	460
Workshops offered by RWC	53
Students in attendance	19
Thesis and Dissertation Roundtables	7
Class Workshops/Presentations by faculty request	28

The Center has continued its collaboration with the Honors College, since August 2013, to recruit and train peer tutors, and had the following positive outcomes:

Fall 2015	9 training sessions	1 student completed
Spring 2016	9 training sessions	3 students completed

Besides the increased number of tutor training sessions (10 in 2014) to 18, it was able to train 4 more tutors in 2015 2016), the Center submitted proposals for two 1-credit tutor training courses to the English and Modern Foreign Languages Department for approval and recommendation to the undergraduate curriculum committee. The Center addressed the problems of recruitment and retention of tutors in the RWC by

- a) providing a continuous tutor training program
- b) providing the opportunity for more students to become peer tutors
- c) improving tutor training
- d) increasing professional development opportunities for peer tutors
- e) creating a community of trained peer tutors

Finally, in its service to the students on campus, the Richard Wright Center provided a community service site for 6 undergraduate peer tutors. We also participated in the following information fairs and orientations:

- New Student Orientation, Fall 2015
- Graduate Student Orientation (Urban and Regional Planning), Fall 2015
- UNIV 100 Faculty Orientation, Fall 2015

Honors College Orientation, Fall 2015 and Spring 2016
Adjunct Faculty Orientation, Spring 2016
JSU Transfer, Spring 2016
Blue & White Information Fair, Spring 2016

Likewise, the Center provided tutoring to students in such summer programs as ICN (Department of Chemistry), Summer Program 2015, and Summer Bridge 2015 (Undergraduate Studies). Dr. Griffin and Tatiana Glushko developed and added a thesis and dissertation template and handouts for graduate students to our website. Their service to faculty included two blog posts on academic writing and writing center pedagogy. The RWC also developed a push card with the help of Brandon Thompson to inform faculty about the RWC and scheduled activities. Leaders also conducted interviews with 7 faculty members to understand their perception of the RWC and identify ways to improve communication with faculty. We also offered a writing support group to CLA faculty beginning May 23, 2016.

THE APPLIED PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES CLINIC:

The Applied Psychological Services Clinic (APSC), a unit in the COLA through the Department of Psychology, serves as an in-house clinical training facility for our Clinical Psychology doctoral students. The mission of the APSC is as follows: To offer clinical training and experiences for doctoral students in providing psychological assessments and psychological interventions and to render psychological services to JSU students, faculty, staff, and to persons in the Jackson community who are in need of psychological assistance. The APSC received more than 300 referrals for individuals requesting psychological assessments. An estimated two hundred fifty (250) clients received services in the APSC. The clientele included referrals from the Jackson State University ADA office, the Latasha Norman Counseling Center, Regions 8 and 9 Mental Health Services, Jackson Public School District (JPSD), Life Help (Greenwood, MS), Hinds County Youth Court, Madison County Youth Court, Mississippi Baptist Health Systems (MBHS), Simpson General Hospital (SGH), local physicians and clinics.

While the clinic services JSU students, faculty, and staff, a large number of the clientele seen in the APSC are from the community. The most common presenting problems were depression, anxiety, stress, behavioral problems, attention deficits, and cognitive or learning difficulties. The value to JSU and the local community is estimated to be \$42,235.00. The provision of these services to the community embodies the Jackson State's mission of serving the community and improving the human condition. All clinical psychology trainees are supervised by licensed psychologists. The APSC initiated a fee for service mechanism using a sliding fee scale based on client's SES. Approximately, a sum of \$6,500 in fees was collected in 2015-2016.

GALLERY 1:

Gallery 1, led by Director Shonda McCarty and a full-time Assistant, is designed to expand the scope of art beyond the class and strengthen academic success through professional development and provide exposure to the artist, with the belief that exposure plus experience result in lifelong learning. The Gallery, located on the campus close to the College of Liberal Arts and COFO is supported by a \$93,299

budget from Title III, serves often as the site where the students can see and appreciate art, applying the analytical principles they learn in the classroom. For others, it is a means of connecting with famous artists the Gallery hosts and sponsors throughout the year, including Summer. This academic year, the Gallery received 5,000 visitors for its 17 major activities, 294 visitors per major activity, including the members of the University community and the public.

Among the most significant activities were the George Clinton Exhibition, Kids Count Summer Project, which consists of three Summer Arts Camps that service the community, Kids Kollege, Upward Bound, McComb Elementary School, and other organizations that serve students; Patrick Kelly Exhibition, and the Homecoming of our JSU alumni and Internationally Renowned Designer. Its major goals for the next academic year include more programming that includes nationally/internationally recognized artists and more STEAM-related programming; seeking more funding sources, such as grants, writing proposals; and securing sponsorships.

Gallery 1 staff is currently working with a Woodrow Wilson grant proposal writer, who is preparing a proposal to assist us with our free Saturday Art classes for the community planned for Fall delivery. The Director approached him at the UNCF/Carnegie Mellon/HBCU's Gallery Director's Institute conference. In summary, led by a dynamic artist, the Gallery not only is a resource for our students, our faculty, and the community, but it also provides visibility to Jackson State University and the College of Liberal Arts in which the Gallery is housed. We hope the funds will continue to support this worthwhile component of the academic training for our students.

THE FANNIE LOU HAMER INSTITUTE @COFO:

The mission of the Fannie Lou Hamer Institute, which is led by manager Keith Lamont McMillian, is to empower humanity through education, intergenerational dialogue, and cultural awareness. It seeks to advocate for human rights and social justice through public programming, exhibitions, and community outreach. Its activities are open to the public, and many faculty bring their students to the Institute to listen to humanitarians and philanthropists, civil rights leaders, and famous authors on the history and life of black people and other well-known individuals from Mississippi and the nation who bring different points of view to the discussions. At times, internationally renowned academicians, politicians, artists, and policy-makers are brought to the campus through the Institute, and juried exhibits are displayed on its walls. From October 1, 2015, to March 31, 2016, over 1,978 students, faculty, staff, and community members and leaders attended the Institute for Social Justice and Race Relations programs, which we believe have positively impacted the university constituencies and the community at-large.

Just to illustrate the scope of its activities, in October 2015, the Institute hosted the 32rd Annual Fannie Lou Hamer Memorial Symposium, which drew some 87 students. In November 2015, it held a Community Book session that featured Alysisa Burton Steele, author of *Delta Jewels*, and Pulitzer Prize-Winning journalism Professor at the University of Mississippi. Steele is the author of *Delta Jewels: In Search of My Grandmother's Wisdom*, a book of oral histories and portraits of over 50 African American church mothers from the Mississippi Delta, including civil rights icon Myrlie Evers-Williams. The Mississippi Delta National Heritage Area recently forged the "Delta Jewels Oral History Partnership" with

Alysia Burton Steele, Pulitzer Prize-winning journalism professor at the University of Mississippi. The Fannie Lou Hamer Institute @ COFO and the Margaret Walker Center at Jackson State University were the second to host an oral history program under this new partnership.

On November 17, 2015, the theme of the “Student Led” presentation was White Flight and the Demise of South Jackson, which was attended by 47 people. On February 9, 2016, the Institute hosted the “JSU Reading Community Book Talk: James Meredith.” This was followed by the Isaiah Madison Memorial Symposium on February 16, 2016, which drew 247 people, including students and faculty. February 24-26, 2016, some 40 scholars and presenters from across the world participated in the first, three-day, “Planet Deep South Colloquium.” This event was open to all scholars, artists, and graduate students that explore the intellectual and creative expression of African people through a series of panel discussions designed to inspire the inquiry of southern Black cultural production through a historical and speculative lens. One of the highlights of this colloquium was the town hall styled discussion regarding the relevance of HBCUs in the future of Black America. This activity drew some 1,450 students, faculty, staff, and community members.

Virtually every month, the Institute holds a session or a symposium where important issues of national import, especially for minorities, are discussed. It collaborates closely with community partners and institutions rather than JSU. Just recently, The Hamer Institute partnered with the Smithsonian Institution National Museum of African American History and Culture, which accepted an intern from Jackson State University, as was the case with Ms. Brittany Calhoun, art student, who received an award of \$4,000. The Institute is funded by Title III, currently receiving \$92,785 for 2015-2016, and one of its major goals is to increase the number of activities and improve the quality of its programs to benefit more constituents and make the nation and Mississippi a better place to live for all races and minorities; increase student involvement in critical social justice and race relation issues; integrate faculty participation in the discussion of social justice and race relation issues into course content; and establish viable community partnerships to provide a forum for discussing ways of organizing communities for positive social change and for overcoming cultural and racial barriers.

This upcoming academic year, 2016-2017, the Institute plans to offer the following activities: commemorate/celebrate the Centennial of Fannie Lou Hamer beginning October 2016-October 2017, through a series of programming events and commemorate the 50th of the March against Fear and the Call for Black Power throughout the state of Mississippi, including Hernando, Grenada, Greenwood, Sunflower County, Tougaloo College, and Jackson, Mississippi. To that end, the Institute is poised to write several grant proposals, and it has already prepared and submitted one titled “Finding Mississippi in the National Civil Rights Narrative: Struggle, Institution Building, and Power at the Local Level” submitted to the National Endowment for the Humanities on February 6, 2016, soliciting \$216,585.32 for mission.