

Dr. Berneece Herbert is an Associate Professor and Chair of the Department of Urban & Regional Planning. She is an experienced educator and planner with over 20 years of academic, research and community engagement experience. As an Urban Planner, she focuses on socio-economic development, strategic planning and management, and public sector investment planning and policy formulation. Her research areas include urban health indicators, sustainable economic development and social equity focusing on food security, climate change, and community engagement. Other areas of interest include big data analytics and transforming data into actionable insights. Prior to her appointment at JSU, Dr. Herbert worked at Alabama A&M University for over 12 years and was Interim Chair for the Department of Community & Regional Planning for three years from fall 2015.

Dr. Herbert is an avid grant writer with over \$1.5 M in grants and contracts between 2012 and 2020 focusing on issues such as food security, urbanization, greenhouse gas emissions and solar energy. Dr. Herbert's other experiences and accomplishments include teaching core courses in GIS and Urban Form, Computer Applications, and International Development Planning. Since 2016, she has served as a reviewer for USDA's Local Foods Promotion Program and was lead reviewer for 2017 and 2019. In 2017, she was highlighted as a Featured Faculty by the Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning (ACSP). She serves as an ACSP Conference Chair Tract 9 – Food Systems, Community Health, and Safety for 2019 to 2020. She has also been nominated for VP/President Elect of ACSP. Between 2018/2019, Dr. Herbert was Faculty Advisor for Alabama A&M University-Toyota joint mobility university challenge. Dr. Herbert is currently the Team Lead for the Planning Accreditation Board (PAB) reaccreditation for the MA in Urban & Regional Planning. She is also a member of the 2020-2022 PAB Standards Committee Taskforce.

As service to her local community, she served as a mentor for the 2016 State Department's Young Leaders of America Initiative and as President of the Caribbean Association of North Alabama, 2018/2019. She is currently working on a number of initiatives with local organizations in Jackson MS such as Hope Credit Union, One Voice, the Center for Social Entrepreneurship, MURC and the William Winter Institute. She is a member of the City of Jackson's Climate Change Taskforce and Harword Public Innovators Lab taskforce. She has also been asked to serve as Associate Director, Community Outreach, Diversity and Inclusion for a Mississippi State Lead NSF planning grant focused engineered green housing.