Talya D. Thomas, Ph.D.

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talya.d.thomas@jsums.edu

**EDUCATION:**

**Doctor of Philosophy in Urban Planning and Environmental Policy August 2011**

Texas Southern University             Houston, TX

Concentration: Community Development and Housing

* Recipient-Departmental Assistantship
* Recipient-Graduate School Tuition Fellowship

Dissertation Title: A Comprehensive Study of the Beneficiaries of Habitat for Humanity Clustered Neighborhood Programs: Home Sweet Home in Houston, Texas.

**Latin American Study Abroad Program Summer 2007**

Cornell University             Ithaca, NY

Courses taken: Brazilian Cities and Transportation and City Themes in Brazil

**Masters of Public Administration May 2004**

Clark Atlanta University             Atlanta, GA

Concentration: Community and Economic Development

* Recipient-Ford Foundation Scholarship

Thesis Title: The Role of Community Development Corporations in Historic Preservation: A Case Study of the Historic District Development Corporation in Atlanta, Georgia.

**Bachelors of Arts May 2002**

Clark Atlanta University           Atlanta, GA

Major: Psychology

Minor: Business Administration

* Dean’s List (2001-2002)

**PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:**

**JACKSON STATE UNIVERSITY Jackson, MS**

DEPARTMENT OF URBAN AND REGIONAL PLANNING

08/2019 to Present           Associate Professor (Tenured)

* Coordinator of Graduate Writing Support, Division of Graduate Studies **(2023-Present)**
* Coordinator, Master of Arts Urban and Regional Planning **(2019-2022)**
* Development of partnership with California Department of Transportation, Division of Rail & Mass Transportation (CALTRANS). URP 550-Special Topics and URP 750-Professional Practices of Planning **(2021-Present)**

* Instruct graduate level courses in Urban and Regional Planning
* Advised graduate students on program of study
* Serve as Ph.D. dissertation chair **(6)**
* Serve on Ph.D. dissertation committees (committee and external member; **(7**)
* Coordinated community-based learning projects between planning students and local entities
* Coordinated internship placement for masters students
* Work with graduate students on research projects (conference proposals, papers, and journal entries)

08/2013 to 05/2019 Assistant Professor

* Instruct graduate level courses in Urban and Regional Planning
* Advised graduate students on program of study
* Serve as Ph.D. dissertation chair **(7)**
* Serve on Ph.D. dissertation committees (committee and external member; **(10**)
* Development of new Ph.D. course **(URP 729-Politics of Planning in Local Government)**
* Coordinated community-based learning projects between planning students and local entities
* Coordinated internship placement for masters students
* Work with graduate students on research projects (conference proposals, papers, and journal entries)

**UNIVERSITY COMMITTEES/ACTIVITIES:**

**JACKSON STATE UNIVERSITY Jackson, MS**

* President’s Strategic Planning Committee-Campus Aesthetics & Sustainability **(2019-2020)**
* University Academic Assessment Council **(2021-Present)**
* University Graduate Policy Committee **(2021-Present)**
* University Graduate Council **(2019-Present)**
* Women’s Council for Philanthropy **(2019-Present)**
* University Posthumous Degree Committee **(2019-Present)**
* University’s Faculty Senate Attendee (**2014 to Present); Advisory Committee on Recruitment and Enrollment-2016-2017)**
* University’s Undergraduate Curriculum Committee-College of Public Service Representative **(2015-2018);** College of Science, Engineering & Technology Representative **(2019-Present)**
* University’s Grievance Committee **(2016-2019)**
* College of Science, Engineering and Technology Faculty Marshall for Graduate Commencement **(Dec. 2022)**
* College of Health Sciences, Tenure and Promotion Committee **(2022-2023)**
* College of Education and Human Development, ad hoc Department of Lifelong Learning Tenure and Promotion Committee **(2019)**
* College of Science, Engineering and Technology RCMI Center for Health Disparities Research, Board Member, Community Advisory Board (**2021-Present**)
* College of Public Service Distance Learning Planning and Implementation Team **(2018-2019)**
* College of Public Service Implicit Bias Think Tank Committee **(2017 to 2019)**
* College of Public Service Student and Faculty Recognition Program **(2014 to 2019)**
* College of Public Service Representative for National Community Planning Month, Planning Committee **(2016 to 2019);** College of Science, Engineering & Technology Representative **(2019-Present)**
* College of Public Service Adhoc Substantive Interaction Committee **(2017 to 2019)**
* Department of Urban and Regional Planning, Faculty Search Committee-Chair **(2022)**
* Department of Urban and Regional Planning, Faculty Search Committee-Chair **(2020)**
* Department of Urban and Regional Planning, Department Chair Search Committee **(2018 to 2019)**
* Department of Urban and Regional Planning, Chair-Student Financial Awards Committee **(2014 to Present)**
* Department of Urban and Regional Planning (Undergraduate **(2014-2017)** and Graduate **(2014 to present))** Program Recruiter
* Department of Urban and Regional Planning, Master and Doctoral Admissions Committee **(2014 to Present)**
* Department of Urban and Regional Planning, Comprehensive Exam Reader-Core and Concentration Areas **(2014 to Present)**
* Department of Urban and Regional Planning, Curriculum Committee **(2014 to Present)**

**GRANTS AWARDS FUNDED:**

1. Socially Disadvantaged Farmers and Ranchers Policy Research Center-An Impact of the Agricultural Act of 2014 on Mississippi’s Socially Disadvantaged Farmers and Ranchers **(2017)-$171,600 (Co-PI)**
2. W.K. Kellogg Foundation-Jobs to Move America (JMA); **(2022)-$35,656.00 (Co-PI)**
3. Princeton Alliance for Collaborative Research and Innovation (RACRI): Sustaining Black History through a Regenerative Future: The Margaret walker Center at JSU  **(2023)-$140,113.58 (Co-PI)**

**GRANTS AWARDS UNDER REVIEW:**

**GRANTS AWARDS NOT FUNDED:**

1. Princeton Alliance for Collaborative Research and Innovation (RACRI): Building Back Better: Helping Low-Income Community Mayors Use Community Development Block Grants Effectively **(2023)-$139,750 (Co-PI)**
2. Urban Institute: Urban and Goldman Sachs One Million Black Women Research Partnership-A Comparative Study of Neighborhood Parks for Income-Eligible Communities Using the Community Park Audit Tool (CPAT) **(2023)-$20,000 (PI)**
3. Princeton Alliance for Collaborative Research and Innovation (RACRI): Community Development Block Grants at work: Implementation Lessons from Low-Income Communities **(2022)-$202,250 (Co-PI)**
4. Russell Sage Foundation- The Role of Happiness and Well-Being in Social, Political and Economic Inequality: Data Collection and Analysis of Self-Reported Well-Being Factors **(2021)-$150,000 (CO-PI)**
5. Urban Institute: Housing Crisis Research Collaborative- Emergency Rental Assistance within the State of Mississippi: Lessons from Mississippi Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) and Rental Assistance for Mississippians Program (RAMP) **(2022)-$30,000 (PI)**
6. Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF)- The Role of Happiness and Well-Being in Social, Political and Economic Inequality **(2021)-$175,000 (CO-PI)**
7. Urban Institute: Housing Crisis Research Collaborative-Landlord Responses to Pandemic: A Case Study of the Landlord-Tenant Law within the State of Mississippi **(2021)-$30,000 (PI)**
8. Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF)- A Case Study of the Landlord-Tenant Law within the State of Mississippi **(2020)-$250,000 (PI)**
9. State Farm Good Neighbor Citizenship- Disaster Ready Nation: A Multi-Disciplinary Methodology Mitigating Disaster Impact on Vulnerable Communities and Developing Next Generation of Disaster Response Specialists **(2019)-$30,000 (CO-PI)**
10. Community Development Education Mini-Grant-Connecting Housing and Community Development for Graduate Students **(2019)-$4,000 (PI)**

**OTHER RESEARCH, SERVICE AND AWARDS:**

1. Conference of Minority Public Administrators (COMPA)-National Planning Committee, Poster Competition Chair **(February 2024)**
2. Collaborative Community Engagement Research Project-The University of New Orleans, Department of Planning & Urban Studies (**September 2023 to Present**)
3. Guest Speaker: Graduate Student Appreciation Week **(Research Symposium, April 2023)**
4. Conference of Minority Public Administrators (COMPA)-Poster Competition Chair **(March 2023)**
5. Jackson State University Junior Faculty Mentoring Program-Mentor **(2022-2023)**
6. Conference of Minority Public Administrators (COMPA)-National Planning Committee, Poster Competition Chair **(March 2022)**
7. Guest Editor-Journal, *Local Development and Society; Special Issue Sustainability-Local Food Systems* **(2021-Present)**
8. Conference of Minority Public Administrators (COMPA)-National Planning Committee, Student Awards Co-Chair, and Poster Competition Chair **(February 2021)**
9. Inaugural Editorial Board Member- Journal, *Local Development & Society* **(2020-Present)**
10. Conference of Minority Public Administrators (COMPA)-National Planning Committee, Student Awards Co-Chair, and Poster Competition Co-Chair **(February 2020)**
11. Jackson State University I-Corps Site Program **Spring 2019 Cohort**
12. Technical Assistance Scholars Program for HBCUs supported by South Carolina State University **(2018-2019)**
13. Reviewer for Journal of Public Management and Social Policy (JPMSP), Rutgers University, Campus @ Newark; Texas Southern University **(January 2016; March 2018; February 2022)**

**PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS:**

* Corresponding Secretary/Technology Chair/ Community Service Chair/ Member -Jack and Jill of America, Inc. **(1985 to 1997; 2013 to Present)**
* Assistant Director, Derrick Thomas Foundation **(2000 to Present)**
* 1st Vice President/Treasurer/Member - Top Ladies of Distinction, Inc. **(2003 to Present)**
* Corresponding Secretary/Member - Mississippi Chapter Clark Atlanta University Alumni Association **(2016 to Present)**
* Mentor Program/Member - National Forum for Black Public Administrators **(2003 to Present)**
* Member-Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning **(2006 to Present)**
* Member-American Planning Association **(2006 to Present)**
* Member-Mississippi Chapter of American Planning Association **(2013 to Present)**
* Member-Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. **(2005 to Present)**
* Member-American Society for Public Administrators **(2014 to Present)**
* Assistant Parliamentarian; Parliamentarian; Secretary; Region 3 Representative; Treasurer/Member-Conference of Minority Public Administrators **(2014 to Present)**
* Member-Community Development Society; CDS Principles and Membership Committee **(2014-Present)**
* Member-Central Mississippi CoC (**2020 to Present)**

**PROFESSIONAL TRAININGS (CERTIFICATIONS AND CERTIFICATES):**

* Certificate in Effective Teaching Practice Framework-**2023**. The Association of College and University Educators and the American Council on Education
* Pardee RAND Graduate School Faculty Leaders Program- **Summer 2023**
* Certificate in Equity & Urban Development-**2023.** The Payne Center for Social Justice
* NIH Training/Center for Health Equity Research (CHER) Summer Institute, **2021** California State University, Long Beach
* Canvas Training-**2020, Instructor Certification**

**BOOK CHAPTERS:**

1. **Thomas T.D**., Hawkins C., Roby C. (2021) HIV/AIDS and Urban African Americans in Housing Sustainability: The Case of Jackson, Mississippi. In: Farazmand A. (eds) Global Encyclopedia of Public Administration, Public Policy, and Governance. Springer, Cham. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-319-31816-5\_4099-1
2. **Thomas, Talya D.,** (2020).The Research Handbook on Community Development. Rhonda Phillips, Eric Trevan, and Patsy Kraeger (Eds). *An Exploratory Study of Food Deserts in Utica, MS.*(pp.290-300). Northampton, MA: Edward Elgar Publishing, Inc.

**PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS:**

1. **Thomas, T.D.**, and J. L. Murphy. (2019). Political Impact on Emergency Management Processes. *International Journal of Current Research,* 11(4), pp.2741-2744.

**MANUSCRIPTS UNDER REVIEW:**

1. **Thomas, Talya D.,** and S. Nicole Diggs. (Submitted). A Critical Investigation of Tenure and Promotion Processes: What factors hold women back in Academia? *PPM Special Issue Proposal: Inclusion in Public Sector Workplaces: Integrating Theory and Practice.*

**CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS:**

1. Presenter/Attendee at Princeton Alliance for Collaborative Research and Innovation (RACRI): Sustaining Black History through a Regenerative Future: The Margaret walker Center at JSU  (February 2024)
2. Presenter/Attendee at Conference of Minority Public Administrators (COMPA) a poster presentation titled “The Life, The Legacy-Margaret Walker Alexander” (February 2024)
3. Attendee at the 50th Anniversary-Phillis Wheatley Poetry Festival, Jackson, MS (November 2023)
4. Presenter/Attendee at JSU Research Engagement Week, Jackson, MS a poster presentation titled “The Life, The Legacy-Margaret Walker Alexander” (October 2023)
5. Presenter/Attendee at MS/AL American Planning Association Fall Conference, Starkville, MS, Mississippi’s Only Planning Graduate Program-Jackson State University (October 2023)
6. Presenter/Attendee at Conference of Minority Public Administrators (COMPA) a presentation titled “Assessing the Potentials of Cotton Land Use in Sudan” (March 2023)
7. Presenter at Council of Educators in Landscape Architecture, San Antonio, TX, March 16-18, 2023 a presentation on Humans & Rivers: Challenges to Public Access & Equitable Flood Risk Management.
8. Presenter/Attendee at JSU Research Engagement Week, Jackson, MS a poster presentation titled “GHGs Emissions as an Indicator of Urban Sustainability: Relationship between Emissions Trends and Socio-Economic Characteristics of the US” (October 2022)
9. Presenter/Attendee at MS/AL American Planning Association Fall Conference, Orange Beach, AL, Jackson State University Faculty/Student Presentation (October 2022)
10. Presenter/Attendee at Conference of Minority Public Administrators, Virtual (Online) a presentation titled “Long Covid: The Missing Policy Link” (March 2022).
11. Presenter/Attendee at Conference of Minority Public Administrators, Virtual (Online) a presentation titled “The Analysis of Wind Energy Potentials in South Africa” (March 2022).
12. Presenter/Attendee at The Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning, Virtual (Online)  “Empowering Citizens To Change The Status Quo:  The 2021 Jackson (MS) Water Crisis” (November 2021)
13. Presenter/Attendee at Conference of Minority Public Administrators, Virtual (Online) a presentation titled “HIV/AIDS and Urban African Americans in Housing Sustainability: The Case of Jackson, Mississippi” (February 2021).
14. Presenter/Attendee at Conference of Minority Public Administrators, Virtual (Online) a poster presentation titled “Mississippi Industrial College Project – The New Neighborhood Holly Springs, MS” (February 2021).
15. Co-Author at American Association of Colleges and Universities (AAC&U) Conference on General Education, Pedagogy, and Assessment, Virtual (Online), presentation titled “eService Learning: Unlocking the Social Justice Potential in Online Courses through eService Learning,” (February 2021).
16. Panel Moderator COMPA @ 50 Web Series, titled “Planning Is Essential to Recovery”. (February 2021)
17. Discussant/Attendee at The Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning, Virtual (Online) Track 9.8-- “Land Use, Urban Agriculture and Stakeholder Engagement in Food System Planning,” (November 2020)
18. Presenter/Attendee at Conference of Minority Public Administrators, Peachtree City, GA a poster presentation titled “GHGs Emissions as an Indicator of Urban Sustainability: Relationship between Emissions Trends and Socio-Economic Characteristics of the US” (February 2020).
19. Presenter/Attendee at Conference of Minority Public Administrators, Peachtree City, GA a poster presentation titled “An Exploratory Study of Food Deserts in Utica, MS” (February 2020).
20. Presenter/Attendee at JSU Women Rise-Women Research in STEM and STEM Education, Raymond, MS a poster presentation titled “GHGs Emissions as an Indicator of Urban Sustainability: Relationship between Emissions Trends and Socio-Economic Characteristics of the US” (September 2019)
21. Presenter/Attendee at Community Development’s Society-50th Anniversary Celebration and 51st Annual International Conference, Columbia, MO a poster presentation titled “An Exploratory Study of Food Deserts in Utica, MS” (July 2019)
22. Attendee at the 24th Annual NSPAA Technical Assistance Workshop Series, Montgomery, Al (June 2019).
23. Presenter/ Attendee at HBCU Making & Innovation Showcase by American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) in conjunction with Emerging Researchers National Conference in STEM (ERN), Washington, DC presented “Community Development Application” (February 2019).

**GRADUATE COURSES TAUGHT:**

* URP 500: History of Planning (on-line)
* URP 520: Housing Policy (hybrid)
* URP 529: Planning in Local Government (on-line)
* URP 540 Historic Preservation & Conservation
* URP 550: Special Topics
* URP 555:             Independent Study
* URP 570: Internship (Professional Development Experience)
* URP 720: Urban Housing Policies (hybrid)
* URP 729: Politics of Planning in Local Government (on-line)
* URP 740: Foundations in Urban Design
* URP 750: Professional Practice in Planning (hybrid)
* URP 760: Advanced Readings
* URP 770: Independent Study
* URP 899: Dissertation

**OTHER COURSES TAUGHT:**

Leadership and Decision Making, Science, Technology, and Public Policy, Government Budget and Financial Management, The Policy Process, The Policy Making Process, Organizational Behavior and Management, Introduction to Public Administration, Public Budgeting, Introduction to Public Sector Planning, Research Methods, American Government I & II, College and Career Development, Guided Studies, Student Success, and First Year Experience.

**DOCTORAL DISSERTATION CHAIR AND COMMITTEE MEMBER:**

* DeMetra Bates, College of Public Service, Department of Urban and Regional Planning. Dissertation Title: “Homelessness: Community Development as a Solution**.” Graduated Summer 2019-Commencement December 2019 (Chair)**
* Mary-Elizabeth Gilbert Manogin, College of Science, Engineering & Technology, Department of Urban and Regional Planning. Dissertation Title: “Fair Housing-It’s Your Right: Affirming Furthering Fair Housing in Jackson, MS**.” Graduated December 2019 (Chair)**
* Monica Lewis, College of Science, Engineering & Technology, Department of Urban and Regional Planning. Dissertation Title: “A Systematic Review on Younger Adults Living in Nursing Homes Transitioning to Home-And-Community-Based Services**.” Graduated December 2020 (Chair)**
* Ashley Henderson-McLaughlin, College of Science, Engineering & Technology, Department of Urban and Regional Planning. Dissertation Title: “A Study of Shifting The Tide in the Area of Urban Flooding: Provisions for Sustainable and Resilient Infrastructure Response Prior to Natural Disasters.” **Graduated Summer 2021-Commencement December 2021 (Chair)**
* Bertiel Harris, College of Science, Engineering & Technology, Department of Urban and Regional Planning. Dissertation Title: “Neighborhood Watch: Using Technology Applications to Report Early Issues of Lead Water Contamination**.” Graduated December 2023 (Chair)**
* Niqua Graham-Brooks, College of Science, Engineering & Technology, Department of Urban and Regional Planning. Dissertation Title: “The Affordability of Housing by Promoting Fairness and Diversity within Housing Policies and Practices **(work in progress).” Pending Graduation December 2024 (Chair)**
* Larry Weems, College of Science, Engineering & Technology, Department of Urban and Regional Planning. Dissertation Title: “Perceptions of High-Rise of Rapid Urban Population Growth: A City’s Dream or a Resident’s Nightmare?”**(work in progress).” Pending Graduation December 2024 (Chair)**
* Antoinette McKay, College of Science, Engineering & Technology, Department of Urban and Regional Planning. Dissertation Title: “A Qualitative Analysis Of Understanding How Systematic Racism Affect and Shape Inequaltiies Of Life In African American Communties”**(work in progress).” Pending Graduation December 2024 (Chair)**
* Erica M. Greene, College of Science, Engineering & Technology, Department of Urban and Regional Planning. Dissertation Title: “Foreclosure Trends: Examining the Effects of Governmental Policies in the Southern Region of California Post Housing Crisis of 2007.” **Graduated December 2022 (Committee Member)**
* Markessa V. Hughes, College of Science, Engineering & Technology, Department of Urban and Regional Planning. Dissertation Title: “Design and Spatial Qualities of Public Parks in Promoting Community Health and Wellbeing in the City of Jackson.” **Graduated May 2022 (Committee Member)**
* Jon-Vincent S. Holden, College of Science, Engineering & Technology, Department of Urban and Regional Planning. Dissertation Title: “Vulnerability and Resilience in Maritime Transportation Infrastructure in the Deep South and Implications for Agriculture Trade. **Graduated April 2023 (Committee Member)**
* Genice V. Hughes-Knight, College of Science, Engineering & Technology, Department of Urban and Regional Planning. Dissertation Title: “Exposure to Carcinogens in Southeast Texas: An Evaluation of Hazardous Air Pollution, Environmental Injustice and The Presence of “Cancer Clusters” in Vulnerable Communities in Houston, Texas.” **Graduated April 2023 (Committee Member)**
* Mohammed Alrefai, College of Science, Engineering & Technology, Department of Urban and Regional Planning. Dissertation Title: “Access to Public Transportation and Social Exclusion: A Case Study of Irbid, Jordan**.” Graduated May 2021 (Committee Member)**
* Alushus Cooper, College of Science, Engineering & Technology, Department of Urban and Regional Planning. Dissertation Title: “A Study of Risk Perception to Build Community Resilience and Reduce Social Vulnerability Through Disaster Preparedness in Rural Mississippi.**” Graduated Summer 2021- Commencement December 2021 (Committee Member)**
* Frederick L. Hunter, Jr., College of Science, Engineering & Technology, Department of Urban and Regional Planning. Dissertation Title: “Local and Sustainable Foods: A Case Study of County Level Food System Pathway and Food Access Planning in the Mississippi Delta- A Pilot Study**.” Graduated Summer 2021- Commencement December 2021 (Committee Member)**
* Chandra Richardson, College of Science, Engineering & Technology, Department of Urban and Regional Planning. Dissertation Title: “The Forgotten Soul of the New Orleans Lower Ninth Ward: An Analysis of Social Inequality after Natural Disasters in Urban Neighborhoods **(work in progress).” Pending Graduation Spring 2021 (Committee Member)**
* Darlene B. Lindsey-Washington, College of Public Service, Department of Urban and Regional Planning. Dissertation Title: “COMMUNITY CONNECTORS: A Case Study of Three Community Colleges’ Impact on Small Town Planning in Rural Mississippi**.” Graduated May 2019 (Committee Member)**
* Biqi Zhao, AICP, College of Public Service, Department of Urban and Regional Planning. Dissertation Title: “Does the Nature of Public Transit System(s) in Urban Areas Affect the Overall Housing Value of Central Cities?**” Graduated May 2019 (Committee Member)**
* Siddiq Fageir, College of Public Service, Department of Urban and Regional Planning. Dissertation Title: “Residential Segregation and The Constraint on Housing Choice in Urban Areas: An Analysis of Cuyahoga County, Ohio and Fulton County, Georgia**.” Graduated May 2019 (Committee Member)**
* Rachel V. Granderson, College of Liberal Arts, Department of Public Policy and Administration. Dissertation Title: “A Case Study Approach: The Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on the Career Satisfaction and Motivation of Employees at Non-Profit Organizations.**”  Graduated December 2022 (External Member)**
* Joe N. Dillard, College of Liberal Arts, Department of Public Policy and Administration. Dissertation Title: “An Examination of The Effects of Mental Illness on Teachers Performance Before and After the COVID-19 Pandemic.**” Pending Graduation December 2023 (External Member)**
* Latonya Curley, College of Liberal Arts, Department of Public Policy and Administration. Dissertation Title: “Complete Streets and a Healthier Society: Reforming Street Design Policies to Combat Obesity.**” Graduated December 2021 (External Member)**
* Adrieme Walker, College of Liberal Arts, Department of Public Policy and Administration. Dissertation Title: “The Five Regions of The United States Of America:

            An Investigation of the Impact of Women Legislators On Public Policy That Relates to

            Women/Family Friendly Issues (Health Care (Reproductive Care), Education, and Equal

             Pay (Labor Participation). **(work in progress)” Pending Graduation December 2021**

**(External Member)**

* Pamela M. Confer, College of Liberal Arts, Department of Public Policy and Administration. Dissertation Title: “Cross-Cultural Literacy and Its Impact on Public Policy.” **Graduated December 2020 (External Member)**
* Angela D. Johnson, College of Liberal Arts, Department of Public Policy and Administration. Dissertation Title: “A Comparative Analysis of County Health Outcomes and the Prevalence of Public Charities in MS, 2010-2018.” **(work in progress).” Pending Graduation Fall 2020 (External Member)**
* Lawren Lang, College of Liberal Arts, Department of Public Policy and Administration. Dissertation Title: “Evaluating the Impacts of the **Graduated Summer 2020-Commencement December 2020 (External Member)**
* Udensi K. Udensi, College of Liberal Arts, Department of Public Policy and Administration. Dissertation Title: “An Assessment of the Impact of Environmental Protection Agency’s Revised 2006 National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) for Particulate Matter (PM 2.5) on the Prevalence of Asthma in the United States.**” Graduated Fall 2020 (External Member)**
* Laura Kay McDavitt, College of Liberal Arts, Department of Public Policy and Administration. Dissertation Title: “Faculty Salary Inequities: An Analysis of Faculty Salary within Disciplines Based on Race and Gender at and Between Mississippi’s Eight Public Institutions of Higher Learning, 2008-2018.**” Graduated May 2021 (External Member)**
* Christopher R. Roby, College of Liberal Arts, Department of Public Policy and Administration. Dissertation Title: “Case Study: Comparative Analysis on Insurance Type on Medical Treatment Adherence for Persons Living with HIV/AIDS: Program Evaluation of Ryan White Part C Program.**” Graduated May 2020 (External Member)**
* Keilani R. Vanish, College of Liberal Arts, Department of Public Policy and Administration. Dissertation Title: “A Performance Evaluation Study of Public Historically Black Universities in Mississippi After the Ayers Settlement.**” Graduated December 2019 (External Member)**
* Kafond Wilder, College of Liberal Arts, Department of Public Policy and Administration. Dissertation Title: “An Impact Analysis of Local Funding Effect on Academic Achievement Amongst Mississippi K-12 Students.**” Graduated December 2019 (External Member)**
* Susie L. Calbert, College of Liberal Arts, Department of Public Policy and Administration. Dissertation Title: “The Operational Definition of Sex Trafficking Among Sex Trafficking Intervention Agencies and Its Impact on their Responses to Commercial Sex Trafficking Victims**.”  Graduated December 2019 (External Member)**
* Jacqueline Sullivan, College of Public Service, Department of Public Policy and Administration. Dissertation Title: “Reduced Carl Perkins Funding and Its Impact on Career and Technical Education for Minority Student Populations in Mississippi” **(work in progress).” Graduated December 2019 (External Member)**