

**Sheryl L. Bacon** is a graduate student in the doctoral program in Public Policy and Administration at Jackson State University. Born and raised in Chicago, IL, Ms. Bacon has had lifelong family ties to the state of Mississippi, and hopes to be an effective change agent for both this state and the southeast region in general. After working in the private sector for several years, she decided to pursue a formal career in public service, and earned a Bachelor of Social Services degree from Belhaven University in 2011. Her internship experience gave her the chance to work with a local facility offering children's and family services to impoverished residents of the city of Jackson. She then earned a Master of Public Administration from Belhaven in 2013, before deciding to pursue a PhD at Jackson State beginning in the Fall of 2014.

Ms. Bacon is currently employed as a Data Specialist with the Mississippi Urban Research Center. She belongs to several professional organizations, and enjoys attending conferences at the local, state, and national levels in order to further develop her knowledge and capacity as a public administrator. Her research interests include Social Justice & Inequality, Environmental Policy, State and Local Government Finance, and Organizational Theory. Her future career aspirations include teaching public policy, and the creation of a non-profit organization designed to specifically support and empower young Black girls.

To contact, e-mail: [sheryl.l.bacon@students.jsums.edu](mailto:sheryl.l.bacon@students.jsums.edu)