

Curriculum Vitae

**Laura Kay McDavitt**

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**Education:**

**Jackson State University-Jackson, Mississippi**

Public Administration Doctoral Program

Current GPA 3.85/4.0 scale

August 2013-present

**Masters of Business Communication**

Emerson College -Boston, Massachusetts GPA

3.59/4.0 scale, August 1990

Emerson Graduate Teaching Scholarship

**Bachelors of Liberal Arts in Communication Management**

Mississippi State University- Starkville, Mississippi *Magna Cum*

*Laude*, GPA 3.63/4.0 Scale, December 1988 Mississippi Honors

Program Phase 1

**Teaching  
Experience:**

**Jackson State University, Department of Speech Communication (Jackson, MS)**

August 2011-present.

Visiting Instructor

August 2010 -August 2011

Adjunct Professor

**Mississippi State University, Department of Communication (Starkville, MS)**

January 2003 to May 2005.

Adjunct Professor

**Emerson College, Communication Studies (Boston, MA)**

September 1989 to May 1990.

Graduate part-time Instructor: Public Speaking

**Courses**

**Taught:** Public Speaking  
Public Speaking, on-line  
Speech Arts  
Speech Arts, JSUOnline  
Nonverbal Communication  
Listening  
Analysis of Communication  
Persuasion

**Awards:**

**JSU Public Policy Student Symposium, Spring 2014. 1<sup>st</sup> place.** Laura McDavitt, Florence Black and Michael Grant “Addressing Teen Birth in Southern Urban Communities”

**Distance Learning Fellowship**  
Course Redesign with Blackboard 9, August 2012

**“We’re MAD about You” Award**  
MADDRAMA Performance Troupe, May 2013

**Publications:**

McDavitt, Laura. 2014. Instructor’s Resource Manual for Choices & Connections, Bedford/St. Martin. Choices & Connections, 1<sup>st</sup> Edition is a textbook for Introduction to Communication courses.

Laura McDavitt, Florence Black, Michael Grant, and Jae-Young Ko. 2014. Addressing Teen Birth in Southern Urban Communities. NAAAS & Affiliates Monograph Series

**Book**

**Edit:** Brown, Candice and McDavitt, Laura. 2014. Jackson State University IBook Speech 201 authored Instructors Manual, fall 2015.

**Book**

**Review:** McCornack, S. & Ortiz, J. Choices & Connections: Introducing Human Communication Bedford/St. Martin’s Review. June, 2012-November, 2014

**Conference  
Attendance:**

Laura McDavitt, Florence Black, Michael Grant, and Jae-Young Ko. 2014. "Addressing Teen Birth in Southern Urban Communities" presented at the International Research Forum, sponsored by National Association of African American Studies & Affiliates (NAAAS), Clinton, Mississippi, April 27-May 1.

Introduction to Communication Symposium, McGraw Hill, Laguna Beach, CA, April 4-5, 2013

**University  
Service:**

Speech Communication and Theatre Administrative Assistant Search Committee, August 2015.  
Rapid Response Team, January 2015- present  
Pedagogical Redevelopment of Instructional Design (PRID) Committee, March 2014-present  
Writing Intensive Course Redesign Committee, February-May 2014  
Faculty Advisor for Lambda Pi Eta, August 2011-present  
Recruitment Committee, October 2011-present  
Assessment Review Committee, February 2012-present  
Transfer Faculty Adviser, July 2012-present  
Color Purple Planning Committee, May - November 2012  
Back to School Meet and Greet Committee, September, 2011-present  
Coordinator of Foundations in Personal Finance, College Edition Student Workshops, August 2011-present  
Theatre Prop & Costume Scout, October 2011-present  
Damn Yankee's Cast & Crew Breakfast Host, November 2011

**Professional  
Training:**

Jackson State University Workshops:

- Active Shooter: What You Can Do, April, 2015
- Kaltura, March, 2012
- Creating Quizzes, Surveys & Assessments in Blackboard, September, 2011
- Mastering Blackboard's Grade Center, September, 2011

- Introduction to Blackboard Training, September, 2011

**Other  
Experience:**

Closing Specialist, March 2006 to August 2011

HOME LAND TITLE – Flowood, MS

- Independent Closing Agent for North East Mississippi.
- Completed over 500 closings successfully.
- Responsible for moving closing from contract to closing table, August 2008 to present.

Grant Writer, January 2006 to January 2011

SYNERGETICS – Starkville, MS

- Seasonal Grant Writer
- Focus of each grant seeks to secure funding for technology for underfunded Mississippi Public Schools.

Grants Proposals Include:

- Picayune School District's School District's Enhancing Education Through Technology Grant, \$139,000, February 2011, Awarded.
- Hollandale School District's School District's Enhancing Education Through Technology Grant, \$249,998, February, 2010
- South Delta School District's School District's Enhancing Education Through Technology Grant, \$213,582, February 2009, Awarded.
- Wilkinson County School District's Enhancing Education Through Technology Grant, \$250,000, February, 2009
- Jasper County School District's Enhancing Education Through Technology Grant, \$200,000, February 2009, Awarded.
- Durant County School District's School District's Enhancing Education Through Technology Grant, \$200,000, February, 2008
- Leak County School District's School District's Enhancing Education Through Technology Grant, \$200,000, February, 2007
- Okolona Separate School District's School District's Enhancing Education Through Technology Grant, \$199,995, February, 2007
- Covington County School District's Enhancing Education Through Technology Grant, \$250,000, February, 2006
- South Delta School District's School District's Enhancing Education Through Technology Grant, \$225,000, February 2006, Awarded

Weight Watchers Leader, May 2007 to August 2012

WEIGHT WATCHERS-Starkville, Tupelo & Madison, MS

- Motivate, educate and facilitate classes that encourage weight loss and healthy living.

Office Manager, March 2004 to June 2008

INNOVATIVE BROADCAST SERVICES – Starkville, Mississippi

- Responsible for all office related duties, including but not limited to accounts receivable and billable.

Executive Director May 2003- March 2004

STARKVILLE AREA HABITAT FOR HUMANITY- Starkville, Mississippi

- Helped rebuild fundraising, family selection, family support and building committees.
- Represent the Habitat for Humanity in Starkville and Oktibbeha County.
- Serve as the communications link between the Board, the executive committee and other committees.
- Prepare all press releases, radio and television spots and presentations.
- Responsible for all office related duties, including accounts receivable and accounts payable.
- Track and maintain all aspects of 30 homeowner mortgages including taxes and insurances.
- Grant Writing and fundraising.

Office Manager - May 2000-March 2003

BROKERSOUTH GMAC REAL ESTATE - Starkville, Mississippi

- Accounts payable and receivable
- Payroll, Taxes and Budgeting
- Hiring and Staff Management
- Organizing and maintaining special events, advertising, and staff functions.
- Work with homeowners to market and promote the purchase of their property.
- Work with homebuyers to help find a property that meets their needs.
- Help guide clients through the financing and legal process involved in the exchange of property.
- Real Estate Sales License, Jackson, Mississippi March, 2003

Supervisor/Dispatcher- November 1990 to May 2000

ROADWAY EXPRESS - Meridian, Mississippi

- Maintained all aspects of dispatching road drivers, including hours, equipment preparation.
- Front line supervision of 130 road drivers, 2 switchers, 1 fueler, and 1 mechanic.
- Worked 7 day 12 hour shifts often at night.
- Extensive training in hazardous materials.
- Responsible for conforming to and enforcing extensive Teamster rules and regulations.
- Responsible for the tracking and security for over 80 tractors and 300 trailers.

Office Manager- September 1986 to August 1989

ELECTRONIC SERVICE CENTER- Starkville, Mississippi

- Computerized a system for tracking customers, technician, and unit activity.
- Supervised technicians.

- Accounts receivables and accounts payable.
- Processing service literature.
- Ordered parts and maintained shipping.
- Responsible for all sales and customer relations.

**Activities:**

Saints Classic Speech and Debate Tournament  
Meals-on-Wheels  
Mississippi Center for Non-Profit  
First United Methodist Greeter Committee  
Lion's Club Exchange Student  
BMI Networking  
Mississippi State University Upperclassman Scholarship  
Gamma Alpha Epsilon  
Phi Kappa Phi  
Gamma Beta Phi  
Honors Council, Mississippi State University  
Student Academic Affairs Assistant Director, Mississippi State University  
Zeta Tau Alpha Fraternity

