

Bachelor of Social Work Interim Chair Selected to Participate in National Accrediting Body's Program Director Academy

Ms. Ahfiya Howard, interim chair of the Bachelor of Social Work (BSW) Program, was selected to join the Council on Social Work Education's (CSWE's) Program Director Academy. The Academy is a certificate program for undergraduate and graduate program directors who have been in their positions less than 3 years. The training focuses on topics related to program management competency domains and job functions.

Howard will participate in a summer leadership institute at CSWE in Alexandria, VA, next month and attend the CSWE Annual Program Meeting in Atlanta this fall.

Ms. Howard is a licensed social worker and has served as the interim chair of the BSW Program for the past year. She said, "I am extremely honored to have been selected as a participant in the Council on Social Work Education Program Director Academy. I look forward to learning new strategies and developing new ideas to bestow upon the School of Social Work."

Howard is elated to have the opportunity to participate in this prestigious program. She further remarked, "It is at Jackson State University that I understand the value of academic success and the importance of one's skills development."

School administrators speak of the importance of Ms. Howard's selection. Dr. Isiah Marshall, Jr., associate dean of the School of Social Work said, "Professor Howard represents a new regime in social work leadership. Many social work educators and leaders are retiring out, leaving academic programs with inexperienced leaders. This new program will provide the necessary tools to assist Professor Howard and others to effectively meet the challenges of accreditation, resource allocation and constituent management."

Dr. Ricardo Brown, dean of the College of Public Service said, "Professor Howard's selection as a Fellow in the 2016 Class of CSWE's Council on Leadership Development is a wonderful professional development opportunity and is one that will strengthen our Social Work programs at Jackson State University. Congratulations Professor Howard!"