

Otis W. Pickett, Ph.D.
Associate Professor of History
Director of B.S.Ed. and M.Ed. Programs in Social Studies Education
Mississippi College (University)
Department of History and Political Science
212 Jennings Hall
200 South Capitol Street
Clinton, MS 39058
Office: 601-925-7834
Mobile: 601-540-6682
Email: owpickett@mc.edu
Twitter: [@OtisWPickett](https://twitter.com/OtisWPickett)

FACULTY POSITIONS

Mississippi College (University), Clinton, MS
Associate Professor of History, August 2020—Present
Assistant Professor of History, August 2013—2020
Director of the B.S.Ed. in Social Studies Education
Director of the M.Ed. in Social Studies Education
Department of History and Political Science
School of Humanities and Social Sciences

University of Mississippi - Tupelo Campus
Clinical Assistant Professor of Teacher Education
Department of Teacher Education
School of Education
August 2012 – August 2013

EDUCATION

The University of Mississippi, Oxford, MS
Ph.D. in U.S. History (2013)
Dissertation: “Neither Slave Nor Free: Interracial Ecclesiastical Interaction in Presbyterian Mission Churches from South Carolina to Mississippi, 1820-1877.”
Major Field: U.S. History, 1607-1877
Minor Fields: Latin America, Globalization and Southern Religion
Advisor: Dr. Charles Reagan Wilson

The University of Charleston and The Citadel, Charleston, SC
M.A. in American History (2008)
Thesis: “We Are Marching to Zion: Zion Church and the Distinctive Work of Presbyterian Slave Missionaries in Charleston, South Carolina, 1849-1874.”
Advisor: Dr. W. Scott Poole
High Pass Honors for Comprehensive Finals
Departmental Honor Graduate, August 2008.

Covenant Theological Seminary, St. Louis, MO
M.A. in Theological Studies (2006)

Research Seminar Paper: “Lost Moment in Time: John Lafayette Girardeau, Robert Lewis Dabney and the Ecclesiastical Equality of Freedmen, 1866-1867.”

Clemson University, Clemson, SC

B.A. in History, minor in Religion (2003)

RESEARCH AREAS

Major Field – United States History from 1607 to 1877.

Minor Fields – Latin America, Globalization in the Atlantic World, Religion and Education in the U.S. South.

RESEARCH FOCUS

- 1) Research focuses on missions to enslaved Africans in South Carolina, the history of religious education in north Mississippi through Missionary Schools to the Choctaw and Chickasaw. Religious multiethnic interaction, ante and post-bellum interracial ecclesiastical relationships, the Native American in southern religious consciousness and how Christian education and missions informed Native American removal.

Manuscript focus in nineteenth century Christian missionaries to Native Americans and Enslaved Africans in South Carolina, North Mississippi, Georgia and in Oklahoma. Chapters focus on:

- a) Revs. T.C. Stuart and Cyrus Kingsbury, Presbyterian missionary to Chickasaw and Choctaw Indians in Northern Mississippi, interracialism and interaction.
 - b) Rev. Alexander McLeod, Thomas Donnelly and missions to Presbyterians in Rocky Creek, SC and the enslaved Africans owned by members of that congregation.
 - c) Rev. John B. Adger, Charles C. Jones and Thomas Smythe, Presbyterian Slave Missionaries and African American Presbyterianism in Charleston, South Carolina.
 - d) Rev. John Lafayette Girardeau, his ambiguous racial legacy, Confederate Memorial Day Ceremonies in Charleston, SC and the use of memory in perpetuating “lost cause” ideology in the U.S. South.
- 2) Current research interests include the history of the religious life of Dr. James Meredith. I have interviewed Dr. Meredith at length with co-author (DeSean Dyson) and we have begun researching and writing a book proposal to be submitted to Eerdmans Press for the Religious Biography Series in Spring of 2021.

<https://www.eerdmans.com/Products/CategoryCenter.aspx?CategoryId=SE!LRB>

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Teaching Specialization:

First-half U.S. History, Second Half U.S. History, Civil War and Reconstruction, Mississippi History, American Religious History and African American History, History of Mass Incarceration.

Prison to College Pipeline Program

Parchman MSP – HIST 403 ST – Mississippi History and Literature: The History of Mississippi and the Literature Produced by that History. Focusing on the works of Ralph Eubanks, Jesmyn Ward, Richard Wright and Ida B. Wells.

Parchman MSP - HIST 403 ST – Justice Everywhere: The Civil Rights Stories of Martin Luther King, Ida B. Wells, Fannie Lou Hamer and Barack Obama. (3 courses)

Central Mississippi Correctional Facility – HIST 403 ST – Turning Oppression into Opportunity: Southern Women Throughout History. (1 course)

Mississippi College – Department of History and Political Science

Undergraduate

HIST 211 – First Half U.S. History, 1620-1877

HIST 212 – Second Half U.S. History, 1877-Present.

HIST 304 – Mississippi History

HIST 403 – History of Religion in the U.S. South

HIST 409 – History of Mass Incarceration in America

HIST 439 – American Religious History

HIST 404 – History and Literature of the New South (Interdisciplinary course taught with Dr. J.B. Potts focusing on African American History and Literature).

HIST 406 – Civil War and Reconstruction

HIST 435 – Social Studies Methods

GEO 210 – Principles of Geography

Graduate

HIST 5403 – Southern Religious History

University of Mississippi – Department of History

HIST 105 – Fall 2010-2012 – First Half U.S. History, 1607-1877

University of Mississippi – Department of Teacher Education

Team Leader – EDCI 353 – Spring 2013

Undergraduate

EDCI 351 – 2008-2009 – Foundations of Professional Growth in Education

EDCI 352 – 2009-2012 – Education, Society and the K-12 Learner

EDCI 353 – 2013 – Creating and Implementing Lesson Plans

EDEL 401 – 2008-2012 – Social Studies in the Elementary Classroom

EDSE 447 – 2012 – Social Studies in the Secondary Classroom

EDLE 480 – 2013 – Supervising Student Teaching: Secondary Education

Graduate

EDLD 501 – 1 section – 2013 – Principles of Leadership in Education for the Mississippi Teacher Corps at the University of Mississippi. School of Education. Department of Teacher Education (2013 cohort)

Guest Lecture:

EDSE 447 – Fall 2009 – Special Methods I: Social Studies

EDSE 647 – Fall 2009-2013 – Advanced Methods: Social Studies

EDCI 675 – Spring 2010 – Teaching with Film

Mississippi Teacher Corps – Summer 2011 - Summer Internship Lecture Series (Guest Lecturer on Race and Institution of Slavery in American History).

University of Mississippi School of Education – Fall 2012 – Guest Lecturer on History of Education in Mississippi and U.S. South. Understanding the context of Integration at the University of Mississippi.

Mt. Salus Christian Academy in Clinton, MS

9th Grade – Spring 2014 – Geography

10th Grade – Fall 2018 – Western Civilization

Regents School of Oxford:

12th Grade – Fall 2011 - Mississippi History

12th Grade – Spring 2012 - American Civics and Government

WORK EXPERIENCE

Associate Professor of History – Mississippi College (University), Clinton, MS
Received tenure and promotion in August of 2020.

Assistant Professor of History – Mississippi College (University), Clinton, MS.
Perform academic duties such as teaching undergraduate courses in first and second half U.S. history, southern religious history, Mississippi history, geography and social studies methods. Directing, advising and supervising student teachers enrolled in the B.S.Ed. in Social Studies Education. Teaching M.A. level history courses and directing the M.S. in Social Sciences. Undergraduate student advising, recruitment, student supervising of student teaching and writing NCATE reports. Also serving Mississippi College in the Department of History and Political Science through participation in committee work and activities supporting internal governance and administration.

Active Chair of the Department of History and Political Science – Mississippi College (University), Clinton, MS.

The department chair was on a short sabbatical from June 30th-August 18th of 2014 and he, as well as the Dean of Humanities and Social Sciences and Vice President for Academic Affairs, asked if I would serve in this role temporarily in the Department Chair's absence. Serving in this role I helped organize course schedules, submitted time sheets, organized orientation sessions, met with potential students, parents and other administrators representing the department. I also assisted and served the department in functional, day to day administrative duties.

Clinical Assistant Professor of Curriculum and Instruction – The University of Mississippi, Tupelo Advanced Learning Center, Tupelo, MS.

Perform academic duties including teaching undergraduate courses at the University of Mississippi, Oxford Campus, Tupelo Center, DeSoto Campus and Boonville Campus. I teach a variety of courses including EDCI 352, EDCI 353, EDEL 401, EDSE 447 as well as supervising secondary student teacher candidates in the field. I also serve as the director and team leader of the EDCI 353 team, overseeing the new TeachLive component, as well as a member of the School of Education's Assessment Committee. My research as it relates to education focuses on social foundations and the history of education in Mississippi with a specific focus on missionary schools to the Choctaw and Chickasaw in the nineteenth century.

Co-Founder and Co-Director of the Prison to College Pipeline Program – The University of Mississippi and Mississippi College, in Oxford and Jackson, MS.

The University of Mississippi Prison-to-College Pipeline Program, a university-community engagement initiative, promotes higher education as an alternative to rising rates of incarceration, high-cost punishment, and recidivism in the state of Mississippi. This program unites university faculty, administration, and advanced graduate students across disciplines and area institutions in the ethical-intellectual endeavor of prison education. We offer college-preparatory and for-credit postsecondary courses for imprisoned learners at Mississippi State Penitentiary (MSP)/Parchman Farm in fields of study that range from English, history, education, sociology, and mathematics to criminal justice, legal, and religious studies. Drawing from our in-prison teaching experiences, we also publish and publicly present scholarly research related to the impact of higher education on imprisoned populations regionally and nationally. Ultimately, the Prison-to-College Pipeline Program aims to cultivate socially-aware pedagogy, civic engagement, and engaged scholarship. Its participants commit to reducing recidivism and increasing public safety by investing in the critical thinking of a disproportionately undereducated and neglected population of adult learners.

Interim Director, Staff Member and Docent – L.Q.C. Lamar House Museum, Oxford, MS.

Provided tours of the National Historic Site and federally restored home of Supreme Court Justice, L.Q.C. Lamar in Oxford, MS. I also managed the schedules of volunteers, the house visiting statistics, helped raise funds, spoke to variety of audiences on Lamar and his life and times, and helped to recruit volunteers to serve the museum. I worked with other museums in Oxford, including the director of the National Historic Landmark William Faulkner home, to come up with exhibit ideas and various ways to market the museum to visitors both locally and nationally. I worked directly with the Mayor of Oxford (Pat Patterson) to help build tourism for the home and I also provided tours of the home for various dignitaries visiting Oxford including Caroline Kennedy in the Fall of 2012.

High School Teacher – Regents School of Oxford, Oxford, MS and Mt. Salus Christian School in Clinton, MS.

Taught Mississippi History and American Civics and Government to 11th and 12th graders in the Fall/Spring of 2011-2012. Courses focused on issues of continuity and change in Mississippi history from 1600-2010. Students learned about Native American history pre-contact, early white settlement, slavery, Mississippi's role in the early 19th century, secession, the Civil War, Jim Crow Segregation, the Long Civil Rights struggle and into the era of the modern South. I have also taught Geography and Western Civilization Courses to 9th and 10th graders at Mt. Salus School in Clinton, MS from 2013-present.

Graduate Instructor –Department of History at the University of Mississippi, Oxford, MS.

I taught History 105, the first half of U.S. history from 1607-1877. My course included narrative of U.S. history as well as examination of primary source documents, interactive questions

regarding the material, audio/visual tools to differentiate instruction as well as traditional lecture format. (September 2010 – Spring 2012).

Graduate Instructor – School of Education at the University of Mississippi, Oxford, MS. Taught as an instructor for several courses and helped students understand the history of education in the United States as well as the work and legacy of Jean Piaget, Lev Vygotsky, Abraham Maslow and others who have left a tremendous impact on the American educational system. Assisted Dr. Sarah McMahan in researching and co-writing a “Teaching American History Grant” with the Federal Department of Education, which will provide opportunities to explore changes in the curriculum at the University of Mississippi to include primary documents in the classroom. I took students to local archives, helped to familiarize them with research tools, and had them create interactive web quests using primary documents as well as digitized documents from the NARA (www.archives.gov) and the Library of Congress (Fall 2008 – Spring 2012).

Research Assistant – Department of History at the University of Mississippi, Oxford, MS. Worked with Dr. John Neff conducting research and transcribing freedman’s bureau materials from the Joseph E. Davis collection at the University of Mississippi describing the life of the slave Benjamin Montgomery. I read, transcribed and processed over 169 letters from the collection in order to better understand how enslaved Africans used seemingly modern management and financial strategies to run a cotton plantation in antebellum Mississippi. (January 2010 – May 2010).

Teaching Assistant – Department of History at the University of Mississippi, Oxford, MS. Served as a teaching assistant for History 105 during the July 2010 summer session. Graded papers, exams and assisted professor in day to day operations of the course. Attended lectures and stayed afterwards to help students with papers. Proctored midterm exam (July 2010 – August 1st)

Chairman, History Graduate Advisory Committee – Department of History at the University of Mississippi, Oxford, MS. Committee served the interests of history graduate students by serving as the official liaison to the History Department and through organizing beneficial forums, lectures and professionalization discussions. The committee was made up of eight graduate students. As chair, I facilitated committee meetings, organized discussion forums, met monthly with History Department Head (Dr. Joe Ward) to discuss graduate student related issues and worked with faculty to improve the experience of history graduate students at the University of Mississippi. In the fall of 2009, the committee organized three forums including a panel discussion for incoming graduate students on “Succeeding in the History Graduate Program at the University of Mississippi,” a forum on “Comprehensive Exam Preparation” and a panel on “Developing a Curriculum Vitae and Professionalization in Preparation for the Job Market.” All forums were attended by the department chair, graduate program coordinator, graduate students and professors who provided insight and advice (August 2009 – present).

Archives and Museum Graduate Assistant – Avery Research Center for African American History and Culture, College of Charleston, Charleston, SC. Served as a Docent, processed archival collections such as the Esau Jenkins, Evangeline Banks Harrison/McClellan-Banks Hospital, Maryville’s Emanuel AME Church, St. Marks Episcopal Church, Charleston Chapter of ASALH, and Mosquito Beach collections. Researched various topics for museum exhibitions such as civil rights legislation produced by Robert Smalls, integration of CofC in 1968, the Brown Fellowship Burial Society and books that used the Avery Archival holdings. These projects were all conducted under the direction of Dr. Marvin W.

Dulaney (Director of the Avery Center). I also taught African American history to school groups ranging from middle school to college level, provided tours, assisted with museum exhibitions and catalogued books in the reference library (August 2006-May 2008).

Cross Cultural Instructor – Prudential, Charleston, SC.

Instructor of course entitled “Roots of Culture.” Taught United States, Southern and South Carolina history to Prudential employees and their families from England. Lectured, provided reading materials, answered questions, and offered historical insight to visiting employees for Prudential in order to familiarize employees with the history of the United States and South Carolina’s role in that history (May-June 2007).

President of the Student Body – Graduate Student Association at the College of Charleston, Charleston, SC.

Co-founder and first President of the GSA at the College of Charleston. Helped to establish the organization, represented graduate students’ interests, co-authored proposal and constitution, prepared budget, co-directed the 2007 Kickoff Festival, presided over Executive Board and Senate meetings, attended Board of Trustee and Graduate Council meetings and worked closely with university administration, faculty and staff to enhance the graduate student experience at the College of Charleston (July 2007-May 2008).

AWARDS (in chronological order)

2018 Mississippi Humanities Council Educator of the Year Award. Myself and co-founder Dr. Patrick Alexander received this award on behalf of the Prison to College Pipeline Program. This award honors the most outstanding teaching of humanities in the state of Mississippi for that year.

2015-2016 Mississippi College Outstanding Faculty of the Year Award. Selected by the Student Government Association. This award seeks to honor commitment, expertise and overall excellence among members of the undergraduate faculty at Mississippi College. April 19, 2016.

2014 Mississippi Department of Corrections Commissioner’s Distinguished Service Coin
Given directly from the State Commissioner of Corrections, recipients of the coin exhibited commendable service, commitment to public safety, and is meant to honor those who have made an outstanding contribution to their state through public safety, commitment and dedication to the imprisoned population of Mississippi.

2013 UM School of Education - Outstanding Teacher of the Year.

Annual award for outstanding teacher in the School of Education at the University of Mississippi. Voted on by the faculty, the award recognizes outstanding teaching of undergraduate and/or graduate students during the academic year. A case for recognition is made on the basis of exceptional classroom instruction but also for teaching beyond the classroom to include supervision, advising, and mentoring of students in school, university, and community settings.

2010-2012 Outstanding Graduate Student Article Published in *The Proceedings* (Peer-reviewed Journal of the South Carolina Historical Association). Every three years the South Carolina Historical Association awards prizes for outstanding articles submitted by a graduate student member to their annual journal. I was given the award at the Spring 2013 meeting for best graduate student paper for the three volumes of *The Proceedings*.

1st place Best Poster Award, Arts and Humanities. The University of Mississippi Graduate Research Symposium 2012. Presented dissertation research in poster format for the 2012 Graduate Research Symposium at the University of Mississippi on April 5, 2012. Poster placed 1st place among other posters in the Arts and Humanities as judged by university professors in the field. Received plaque and prizes.

Scholarship Recipient. Duke Divinity School's Summer Institute 2012. Duke Divinity School Summer Institute offers competitive scholarships to attend its 2012 summer institute entitled: "The Ministry of Reconciliation in a Divided World." I attended as a scholar on behalf of The William Winter Institute for Racial Reconciliation at the University of Mississippi. I participated in a course entitled "Reconciliation and Academic Institutions"

Dissertation Research Fellowship, Spring 2011, The University of Mississippi Graduate School. 2011 recipient. The fellowship is University-wide and given bi-annually on a competitive basis to promising Ph.D. candidates at the University of Mississippi. The fellowship is \$5,000.00.

Graduate Instructor Excellence in Teaching Award, 2009-2010. University of Mississippi, Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning. 2009-2010 recipient. University-wide award is given annually to one exceptional Graduate Instructor at the University of Mississippi who provided outstanding instruction and effective teaching methods in the classroom. \$1,000.00 grant comes with the award.

Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges, University of Mississippi, Inductee, 2009-2010

Phi Kappa Phi National Honor Society, University of Mississippi, Inductee, 2009-2010.

Charleston Scientific and Cultural Education Fund Annual Scholarship Recipient. Scholarship recipient (\$2,500.00) for research in topics related to the cultural history of Charleston, SC. Competitive grant carries a reward to assist in research related to the history of Slave Missionaries in Charleston, SC. Received in April of 2008 and 2009.

Finalist for John W. Odum Memorial Prize in Southern History, Department of History at the University of Mississippi, finalist in 2009 for: "The Beginning of Religion and Education in North Mississippi: Rev. 'Father' T.C. Stuart and the Presbyterian Missions to the Chickasaw, 1820-1839."

1st place - Best Poster Award. College of Charleston Graduate Research Poster Session 2008 Award. 1st place for best research in the School of Humanities and Social Sciences in January of 2008. The topic of the project reflected thesis research on Presbyterian Slave Missions in Charleston South Carolina. \$250 grant. www.cofc.edu/gradschool/Research/SessionWinners.html

Colonial Dames Powder Magazine Scholarship Award. Award presented to top graduate student in American History at the College of Charleston. This is a competitive Award Given by the Colonial Dames in the form of a grant (\$2,000) received in January of 2008.

Graduate Assistantship from the Avery Research Center for African American History and Culture, a competitive academic assistantship offering tuition abatement, stipend, and access to rare archival collections, books, and teaching opportunities. Recipient from August 2006 to May 2008.

Outstanding Graduate Recipient, Department of History, First Summer Session, College of Charleston, 2008.

High Pass Honors in Comprehensive Final Exams, College of Charleston, 2008

G. Aiken Taylor Award in American Presbyterian History. Award Recipient in 2005 for “Lost Moment in Time: John Lafayette Girardeau, Robert Lewis Dabney and the Ecclesiastical Equality of Freedmen, 1866-1867.” \$200 grant in May of 2005.
www.pcahistory.org/main/tayloraward.html

Clemson University Dean’s List, 2002-2003.

Phi Alpha Theta History Honor Society, Clemson University Chapter, 2003

Blue Key Honor Society, Clemson University Chapter, 2003

PUBLICATIONS

Manuscript

Southern Shepherds, Savage Wolves: Presbyterian Domestic Missionaries and Race in South Carolina, 1802-1874. In process for review for University of South Carolina Press. Ehren Foley (editor). Book proposal submitted.

In process of submitting book proposal to Eerdmans Press for Religious Biography Series edited by Heath Carter at Princeton. Religious Biography of James Meredith. Co-authoring with DeSean Dyson.

Peer Reviewed Book Chapter

“John Lafayette Girardeau and the Conflicting Personas of a Confederate Chaplain in Postwar South Carolina, 1865-1874” in edited volume by Ted Ownby, Darren Grem and James Thomas. *Southern Religions, Southern Cultures: Essays Honoring Charles Reagan Wilson.* University Press of Mississippi (Jackson, MS) October, 15 2018.

Peer Reviewed Journal Articles

In process to submit to Journal of Southern Religion. A Black Swan in the Flock: Alexander Mcleod, Thomas Donnelly, Slavery and the Carolina Covenanters in Rocky Creek, South Carolina, 1801-02.

“The Prison-to-College Pipeline Program: An Ethical, Education-Based Response to Mass Incarceration in Mississippi” *Journal of African American History* Co-authored with Dr. Patrick Alexander. Volume 103 Number 4 Fall 2018 <https://asalh.org/document/journal-of-african-american-history/>

“‘We Were All Prisoners of the System’: William Winter, Susan Glisson, and the Founding of the William Winter Institute for Racial Reconciliation.” *Southern Quarterly: A Journal of Arts &*

Letters in the South, The University of Southern Mississippi. Winter 2016 edition.
<https://muse.jhu.edu/article/643248>

“Father T.C. Stuart, the Monroe Mission and the Chickasaw of North Mississippi, 1822-1830.”
Native South, The University of Nebraska Press. Summer 2015 edition.
https://muse.jhu.edu/journals/native_south/toc/nso.8.html

“We Are Marching to Zion: Zion Church and the Distinctive Work of Presbyterian Slave Missionaries in Charleston, South Carolina, 1849-1874.” *The Proceedings*, Journal of the South Carolina Historical Association. Spring 2010 edition.
<http://www.palmettohistory.org/scha/proceedings2010.pdf>

Edited Book Chapter Contributions

“Angel of Mercy: Rose Fairbank Beals, M.D., American Female Medical Missionary in India, 1905-1938” in edited volume by Brittany Smith and Doug Serven *Co-Laborers, Co Heirs: Women in the Presbyterian Church in America*. White Blackbird Books (Oklahoma City, Oklahoma). June 10, 2019.

“Race, Reconciliation and the American Church” in edited volume by Doug Serven, ed. *Heal Us, Emmanuel: A Call for Racial Reconciliation, Representation and Unity in the Church*. White Blackbird Books (Oklahoma City, Oklahoma). May 5, 2016.

Articles for Edited Online History Publications

“Presbyterians, Politics & American Society: A Conversation with Historians in the PCA” *The Anxious Bench*, co-authored with Dr. Brian Franklin. Edited blog of American Religious Historians through *Patheos*. Edited by Beth Allison Barr and Chris Gehrz. July 2019.

“A Response to ‘#Woke Evangelical Timeline’” *The Anxious Bench*, an edited blog of American Religious Historians through *Patheos*. Edited by Beth Allison Barr and Chris Gehrz. May 2019.
<https://www.patheos.com/blogs/anxiousbench/2019/05/a-response-to-woke-evangelical-timeline/>

“Teaching History Within The Carceral State” *The Way of Improvement Leads Home* (Blog and Website maintained by American Religious Historian John Fea). I served as a correspondent from the 2017 Organization of American Historians and wrote an overview of our panel on “Teaching Within the Carceral State” for *The Way of Improvement Leads Home*, which has a very strong following among American Religious Historians
<https://thewayofimprovement.com/2017/04/18/teaching-history-within-the-carceral-state/>

“Mission Churches and Multi-Ethnicity on the Mississippi Frontier: T. C. Stuart and Presbyterian Missionary Activity among the Chickasaw, 1820-1837” *Mississippi History Now*, Mississippi Department of Archives and History. August 2015.
<http://mshistorynow.mdah.state.ms.us/articles/397/mission-churches-and-multi-ethnicity-on-the-mississippi-frontier-t-c-stuart-and-presbyterian-missionary-activity-among-the-chickasaw-1820-1837>

Newspaper/Magazine/Online Articles

“Let Confederate Emblem on Mississippi Flag Go.” Faith Section of the *Clarion-Ledger* (Jackson, MS). Article appeared on the front page of the Faith Section on April 11, 2016. I later received word from the editor that it was the most shared article of the week for that week with 4,800 shares on Facebook. <http://www.clarionledger.com/story/life/faith/2016/04/07/my-faith-let-confederate-emblem-mississippi-flag-go/82722980/>

“On the Anniversary of Emmitt Till’s Death” Current Events/Articles, Publication of the *Reformed African American Network*. August 29th, 2015. <https://www.raanetwork.org/on-the-anniversary-of-emmitt-tills-death/>

“Christianity, Prison Education and Matthew 25.” *Clarion-Ledger* (Jackson, MS). Article appeared on August 22, 2015. <http://www.clarionledger.com/story/life/2015/08/21/christianity-prison-education-matthew/32119223/>

“Race and the American Church.” Article Series (7 articles) *Reformation 21*, Summer 2015. <http://72.47.212.95/otis-w-pickett/> and <http://www.reformation21.org/articles/americans-also-supported-a-physical.php>

“A Lament for Charleston.” *Reformation 21*, Publication of the Alliance of Confessing Evangelicals. Summer 2015. <http://www.reformation21.org/articles/for-such-a-time-as-this.php>

“Hope For Racial Healing: Rethinking Christian Missions Among the Chickasaw.” *Oklahoma Humanities Magazine*, Oklahoma Humanities Council Press. Summer 2012 issue. Carla D. Walker, Editor. http://www.okhumanities.org/Websites/ohc/images/Magazines/summer_2012/hope_for_racial_healing1.pdf

“The Seeds of History: The Avery Research Center Archives and Its Legacy.” Cover article in the *Avery Messenger*, Vol.5 – No.1, Spring/Summer 2007. http://avery.cofc.edu/2007_SUMMER.pdf

“Lost Moment in Time: John Lafayette Girardeau, Robert Lewis Dabney and the Ecclesiastical Equality of Freedmen, 1866-1867.” Printed by the PCA Historical Center and Archives in 2006 and ordered through <http://www.pcahistory.org/main/tayloraward.html>.

Book Forwards

Forthcoming *John Lafayette Girardeau’s Slave Catechism*. Co-authored with Timothy Fritz. Log College Press (Summer 2020).

Robert E. Lee’s Orderly, Nathan Bedford Forrest’s Slave: A Modern Black Man’s Confederate Journey. By Al Arnold. Forward by Otis W. Pickett. Publish Green (October 22, 2015).

Book Reviews

Hard, Hard Religion: Interracial Faith in the Poor South. John Hayes. The Journal of Ohio Historical Society. Fall 2019.

Challenges on the Emmaus Road: Episcopal Bishops Confront Slavery, Civil War and Emancipation. T. Felder Dorn. The Journal of Southern History. Southern Historical Association. University of Georgia. Spring 2016.

The Dunning School: Historians, Race and the Meaning of Reconstruction. Edited by John David Smith and J. Vincent Lowery. The Journal of Civil War History. Department of History. University of Akron. Summer 2015.

Andrew Jackson, Southerner. Mark Cheatham. The Journal of Mississippi History. Mississippi Department of Archives and History. Dr. Robert Luckett, Book Review Editor. In process.

Encyclopedia Entries

“Rev. T.C. ‘Father’ Stuart.” *Encyclopedia of Mississippi History*, Ted Ownby, editor, 2017.

“John Fitzgerald “Jack” Kennedy.” *Encyclopedia of African American History*, Leslie Alexander and Walter Rucker, editors. (Columbus, OH: ABC-CLIO’s Press, The Ohio State University Department of American and African Studies, 2008).

“Esau Jenkins.” *African American National Biography*, Evelyn Brooks Higginbotham and Henry Louis Gates, editors. (Cambridge, MA: W.E.B. DuBois Institute at Harvard University, Oxford University Press, 2008).

CONFERENCES ORGANIZED

St. George Tucker Society Meeting – 2017

Elected as President and organizer for the 2017 meeting in Jackson, Mississippi. This was the 25th anniversary of the St. George Tucker Society and the first time that it had met in Jackson, MS. I put together the program for the conference, organized local arrangements and maintained the budget for the society. The membership so enjoyed their experience in Jackson that they voted to have it again in Jackson in 2018. <http://stgeorgetuckersociety.org/index.php/annual-meeting/> and the program can be found here: <http://stgeorgetuckersociety.org/index.php/conference-program-2017/>

Mississippi Council for the Social Studies – 2016

Elected as President and served as President Elect and Vice President. Organized the 2016 annual meeting of the MCSS in Hattiesburg, Mississippi. The 2016 Annual Conference was entitled “Beyond College, Career and Civic Readiness: Social Studies Instruction that Inspires. I delivered opening remarks, provided the opening keynote address, presented at a panel, helped put together the conference program, helped register members, acquired a keynote lunch speaker and worked with faculty at USM to coordinate local arrangements. Under my tenure as President we also doubled the number of participants from the previous year. I also worked with the Mississippi Geographic Alliance in making it the first conference that joined with the MGA preservice conference to unite our programming. This provided much needed resources and members for the MCSS.

Clinton Riot 140th Anniversary Symposium and Marker Unveiling

I served on the history committee of the City of Clinton and worked with city government officials, Mississippi College and the William Winter Institute for Racial Reconciliation to host a symposium entitled “Using the Past to Bridge a Future of Understanding and Reconciliation.” This panel featured historians, descendants of Clinton Riot participants, former Governor William

Winter, Justice James Graces and the Rev. Neddie Winters of Mission Mississippi for Racial Reconciliation. We also hosted a Commemoration of the Clinton Riot of 1875 in downtown Clinton on Friday, September 4th 2015, which included a historical reading called “Voices of the Clinton Riot,” where I served as narrator. I also served as an editor of the script. We then unveiled the first historical marker of the Riot as well as a relief and biographical marker of Charles Caldwell, an African American senator who was murdered in the days after the riot.

Mississippi Council on the Social Studies – 2015 Teacher Workshop

As Vice President and President-Elect of the Mississippi Council of the Social Studies, my institution (Mississippi College) hosted the 2015 Annual Teacher Workshop. I organized a conference with scholars from The University of Mississippi, Mississippi State, Mississippi College and Leflore County School District to present on their research and ways to help pre-service teachers think through teaching social studies topics in secondary classrooms using ARC-GIS technology, primary documents and teaching the Civil Rights Movement as well as the Holocaust effectively.

Conferences on “Rethinking Mass Incarceration in the South. 2014 and 2016. The Sarah Isom Center at the University of Mississippi. Planning Committee Member. We have worked to have nationally renowned Guest Speakers including: Vikki Law, Dr. Dylan Rodriguez, Talithia Leflouria and Melina Abdullah. They shared their experiences with incarceration in the South. We have also submitted a call for panels and papers through H-Net. We received over 100 submissions from scholars across the country from a variety of disciplines. I have been in charge of helping to plan and raise funds for the conference as well as reviewing submissions for papers and panels from the fields of history and religion as they relate to incarceration in the U.S. South. The committee is also organizing the schedule for the conference as well as hosting a trip to Parchman. I also ran the twitter feed for both conferences. The link to the conference website is: <http://sarahisomcenter.org/mass-incarceration/>

PANELS CHAIRED

St. George Tucker Society, July 2018. Denmark Vesey’s Garden: Slavery and Memory in the Cradle of the Confederacy. Roundtable featuring: Ethan Kytle and Blain Roberts, (*Cal State-Fresno*), Bernard Powers (The College of Charleston, Mary McNiall Mitchell (The University of New Orleans) and Otis Pickett (Mississippi College).

Porter Fortune History Symposium, February 2015. “Southern Culture and Southern Religion” In Honor of Charles Reagan Wilson. Chaired the panel on Race and Civil Religion in the South. This panel featured John Giggie (University of Alabama), Carolyn Renee Dupont (University of Eastern Kentucky) and Calvin White, Jr. (University of Arkansas).

Brooks Dissertation Forum Chairman, St. George Tucker Society Annual Meeting, August 2014-2015. I chaired the Brooks Dissertation Forum for the annual meeting in Atlanta, GA. My duties included sending out a call for papers to graduate programs across the country, selecting a committee of Tuckerites who would help read through the submissions, grade the submissions and make recommendations for three selectees, and then notify the selectees as well as the individuals who were not selected. At the annual meeting I will introduce the participants, give comments on their papers and run the Q&A session.

Incarceration & the U.S. South: Historical Perspectives Panel Chairman. Rethinking Mass Incarceration in the South. April 13-15, 2014. Papers included Missy Jones (Mississippi

College) “Revolution, Second Slavery, and the Clinton Riot of 1875,” Henry Kamerling (Seattle University) “Southern Punishment as American Punishment: Assessing the Historical Preconditions for the Punitive Turn in National Correctional Policy” and Amy Wood (Illinois State University) “Mollycoddlers and Chicken-Livered Men: The Problem of the Rehabilitative Ideal in Texas Prisons, 1910-1940.” I chaired the panel, introduced the scholars, gave comments and ran the Q&A session.

ACADEMIC PRESENTATIONS (in chronological order)

History

American Historical Association Annual Meeting in New York, New York. January 2-5th, 2020. Presented a paper on a panel entitled “Lament as Historical Practice” and presenting paper entitled “Justice Everywhere, The Prison to College Pipeline Program, Mass Incarceration and Race: Historical Continuity in Mississippi.”

Universities Studying Slavery 2018 Fall Symposium at Tougaloo College, October 24th-26th, 2018. Presented a paper on a panel entitled “Making and Remaking the Meaning of Place and Space” and presented a paper entitled “The Mississippi State Flag: How Slavery, Memory, and the Lost Cause are Enshrined in Twenty-First Century State Symbols and Consequences in Higher Education.”

Conference on Faith and History (Bi-Annual), October 4-6th, 2018. Presented on panel entitled “Teaching on Race and Civil Rights History in the Age of Donald Trump.” and presented a paper entitled “Teaching the Civil War, Confederate Memory and Undoing the Effects of the Lost Cause in the Classroom and Public Arena in Mississippi.” The president of the society Dr. Beth Allison Barr attended the panel and wrote a blog post about it here: <http://www.patheos.com/blogs/anxiousbench/2018/10/highlights-cfh-2018/>

Organization of American Historians Annual Meeting April 2017. Teaching History within the Carceral State: A Panel Discussion on Mississippi’s Prison to College Pipeline Program. I presented on prison pedagogy used at Parchman Penitentiary and Central Mississippi Correctional Facility and also shared the long history of incarceration in Mississippi from the convict lease system up to the development of Parchman in 1901 to the imprisonment of the Freedom Riders.

Conference on Faith and History (Bi-Annual), October 20-22nd, 2016. Presented on panel entitled “Southern Presbyterians in the 20th Century: Christian Historians Reflect on Race, Segregation, the Civil Rights Movement and Ongoing Efforts toward Racial Reconciliation.” and presented a paper entitled “Disrupting the Cultural Captivity Paradigm in Southern Presbyterianism: Racial Inferiority, Segregation, and Setting the Theological Foundation for the Twentieth Century.”

Organization of American Historians Annual Meeting April 2015. Presented a paper on a panel entitled “Evolving Conceptions of the Southern Male: Identity, Morality, and Masculinity in the Civil War Era.” My paper was entitled “John Lafayette Girardeau, The Re-Internment of the Carolina Dead at Gettysburg and the Conflicting Personas of a Confederate Chaplain in Postwar South Carolina, 1865-1874.”

The St. George Tucker Society: 2011 Meeting in Augusta Georgia. Brooks Dissertation Forum Participant.

My chapter was selected by Dr. Fred Smith and the Brooks Dissertation Committee of the St. George Tucker Society to be included in the annual meeting. Presented a chapter at the conference from my dissertation on Presbyterian Missionaries in South Carolina, Georgia, and Mississippi. Comments from Dr. Aaron Anderson (Alcorn State University).

The John Hope Franklin Center for Racial Reconciliation's 2nd Annual Conference: "Hope and Healing: Black, White and Native American."

Presented research entitled "Is There Racial Hope and Healing in American Religious History?: Presbyterian Missionaries Among Enslaved Africans in Charleston, SC and The Chickasaw Nation in Mississippi, 1820-1877." On June 2, 2011 I spoke to a group of scholars on the Rev. T.C. Stuart, Presbyterian Missions and how American Religious history provides spaces for interracial interaction and discourse in the 19th century.

The University of Southern Mississippi's Conference: "A Centennial Celebration of Civil Rights"

Co-organized panel submission (with Prof. Pat Rayner, U.S. Air Force Academy) entitled "Presbyterian Response to the Long Civil Rights Movement: Religious Accommodation and Opposition from 1865-1965." Presented research on October 22, 2010 on the ambiguous post-war career of the Rev. John L. Girardeau, strictly focusing on Girardeau's role in Confederate Memorial Day Ceremonies and how this legacy continued into 20th century. Comments from Dr. Chester "Bo" Morgan, (University of Southern Mississippi).

Carolina Low-Country and the Atlantic World Conference: "After Slavery: Race, Labor & Politics in the Post-Emancipation Carolinas." Panel was entitled "New Religious and Political Communities in the Reconstruction South." Comments from (co-chairmen) Dr. Clarence Taylor (CUNY) and Dr. Charles F. Irons (Elon). Presented research and answered questions on John L. Girardeau and the ecclesiastical equality of African Americans in biracial churches in 1866-1877 in Charleston, SC on March 11, 2010.

South Carolina Historical Association Annual Conference. Presented research in panel entitled "19th Century South Carolina" on Presbyterian Slave Missionaries in Charleston, SC. This took place at the 2009 Annual Conference of the South Carolina Historical Association on March 7. Comments from Dr. W. Scott Poole (CofC).

Southern Studies

Southern American Studies Association Annual Meeting at Emory University in Atlanta, GA – March 15-17, 2019. Presented a paper on a panel entitled "Bringing 'Justice Everywhere' Back": Teaching and Learning in the Jail and in Prison Classrooms of the American South as Justice Pursuit. Presented a paper entitled "Turning Oppression into Opportunity: Continuity and Change Over Time Teaching Southern Women's History to Incarcerated Women and Central Mississippi Correctional Facility."

National Endowment for the Humanities Annual Conference in New Orleans, November 8th -10th, 2018. Presented a paper on a panel entitled "Humanities Behind Bars" and presented a paper entitled "The Prison to College Pipeline: Teaching History and the Humanities as Part of Humanizing Incarcerated People." Fellow panelists included Laura Anderson, Terry Farish, Ellie Hutchinson and was moderated by Carol Andersen of the Mississippi Humanities Council.

Jackson State University Conference on the Liberal Arts, October 7th, 2016. Presented on a panel entitled “Teaching About Mississippi in Trying Times.” This panel included Bridget Smith Pieschel, (Mississippi University for Women), D’Andra Orey, (Jackson State University), Jason Ward, (Mississippi State University), Otis Pickett, (Mississippi College) and moderated by Ted Ownby, (University of Mississippi).

Winning the Race Conference: Advancing Social Justice in Communities and Institutions in Cleveland, MS at Delta State University on March 28th, 2016. I presented on the history of race, incarceration and the history of the carceral state in Mississippi. I presented on a panel entitled “Education and Community” along with other scholars who work on Prison studies, education and incarceration.

Rethinking Mass Incarceration in the South Conference in Oxford, MS at The University of Mississippi Law School on April 15th and 16th, 2016. I presented on the long history of racial violence in Mississippi and how this long arc of racial injustice has historical continuity with today in a variety of spaces including education, legislation and the system of private, for profit prisons in Mississippi.

Southern American Studies Association Annual Meeting February 2015. Co-submitted a panel that was accepted for the SASA regional meeting in Atlanta, GA. The panel examined the history of Mass Incarceration in the South and the modern day implications. My paper was entitled: “Let Justice Roll Down Like Mighty Waters”: The History of Incarceration in Mississippi and its Legacy in Teaching the Civil Rights Movement to Incarcerated Students

The University of Mississippi’s Second Annual Graduate Research Symposium 2012. Presented research and won award for best poster in the School of Arts and Humanities, which contained revised research from dissertation on Presbyterian Slave Missionaries Charles Colcock Jones, John Bailey Adger, and John Lafayette Girardeau in Charleston, South Carolina from 1847-1874.

College of Charleston’s Second Annual Graduate Research Poster Session 2008. Presented research and won award for best poster in the School of Humanities and Social Sciences with, “‘We Are Marching to Zion’: Zion Church and the distinctive work of Presbyterian Slave Missionaries Charles Colcock Jones, John Bailey Adger, and John Lafayette Girardeau in Charleston, South Carolina from 1847-1874.”

Education

Mississippi Council for the Social Studies 2016 Annual Conference in Hattiesburg, MS at The University of Southern Mississippi. October 5, 2016. I presented at the 2016 on “Using Mississippi History to Inspire Rather than Beat Down.” I presented on the lives and legacies of six Mississippians (Manuel Gayoso, Jeremiah Gage, Sarah Dickey, Fannie Lou Hamer, James Meredith and John Perkins) whose lives inspire us to be better Mississippians. This gives students inspiring stories to hear alongside much horrific violence and difficulty. I gave primary documents to participants and also had two of my undergraduate students present pre-researched bios on James Meredith and Fannie Lou Hamer.

Mississippi Council for the Social Studies 2015 Annual Conference in Jackson, MS October 5, 2015. Presented on “Rethinking How we Teach Reconstruction and Deconstructing the Myths of Reconstruction.” I presented on some of the myths of Reconstruction that we often see in

textbooks and through the Dunning School interpretation of the events. I also displayed how teachers of history could use documents from *Mississippi History Now* articles, the Mississippi Department of Archives and History and other archival depositories to connect Reconstruction history with students.

Mississippi Council for the Social Studies 2014 Annual Conference in Philadelphia, MS October 17, 2014. Presented on using Primary Documents to teach the 50th anniversary of the Civil Rights movement. I also displayed how teachers of history could use documentaries such as *Spies of Mississippi* and connect with online resources such as The Sovereignty Commission Papers at the MDAH.

National Council for the Social Studies 2013 Conference in St. Louis, MO. November 22-24, 2013. Presented on Social Justice and Education in Mississippi with Dr. Joel Amidon and Dr. Ellen Foster. Presentation will display how K-12 teachers can use social studies topics to address issues of injustice to align with Common Core standards.

Mississippi Council for the Social Studies 2013 Winter Professional Development Conference for K-12 Teachers and Pre-service Teachers. Presentation entitled “Critical Historical Thinking for College and Career Ready High School Students.” The presentation explored how to access documents and how to make connection from those documents to student’s lives. Further, it showed how classroom engagement in primary documentation through Common Core State Standards helped better prepare students with the critical thinking skills necessary for college and future careers.

Southern History of Education Society (SHOES) 2013 Annual Meeting. Presented paper entitled “The Rev. Cyrus Kingsbury and Christian Educational Missions to the Choctaw in North Mississippi, 1819-1832” on panel entitled “Nineteenth Century Innovations in Education.”

ACADEMIC RESPONDENT/COMMENTATOR

Jackson State University Conference on the Liberal Arts, October 8th, 2016. Offered comments on a panel entitled “*An Applied Approach: Re-figuring the Value of Liberal Arts Education*” Chair: Dawn McLin, (Jackson State University), *[Re]Defining Liberal Arts Education: Challenges and Opportunities*, Mario Azevedo, (Jackson State University), *Applied Humanities: The Liberal Arts as a Laboratory of Life*, Candis Pizzetta, (Jackson State University), *Re-Engineering Liberal Arts through Future Studies, Psychology and Research Literacy*, Joseph Stevenson, Chicago School of Professional Psychology and Dawn McLin, (Jackson State University). Respondent: Otis Pickett, (Mississippi College).

INVITED LECTURES

National Day of Racial Healing. William Winter Institute. Jackson, Mississippi. 2020. Co speaking with Mitch Landrieu former mayor of New Orleans and founder of [E Pluribus Unum](https://www.winterinstitute.org/2020/02/06/reflections-on-the-2020-national-day-of-racial-healing/); Rev. Dr. Jason Coker, field coordinator for the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship of Mississippi; and Dr. Rhea Williams-Bishop, the director of the W.K. Kellogg Foundation’s Mississippi and New Orleans programming. <https://www.winterinstitute.org/2020/02/06/reflections-on-the-2020-national-day-of-racial-healing/>

Mississippi Humanities Council Speakers Bureau – Northeast Mississippi Community College. April 1, 2019. I was invited by the History Department at NEMCC to come and speak

on teaching history in prison and teaching incarcerated students to students at their campus. The department applied for a MHC Speaker's Bureau stipend and invited me to speak through the MHC.

Covenant College Lecture to the Student Body, Faculty and Staff. Invited by the Committee on Racial Awareness at Covenant College in Chattanooga, TN. September 18, 2017. Invited me and Dr. Patrick Alexander to come and speak on The Prison to College Pipeline Program and the role of race and mass incarceration.

Radical South Lecture Series: Expanding Southern History and Identity. Sponsored by The Sarah Isom Center for Women and Gender Studies at The University of Mississippi. April 12, 2017. Presented in a forum at the William Winter Institute for Racial Reconciliation on "Students, Scholars, Teachers, Capable": The Prison to College Pipeline Program and Abolition Pedagogy. Introduction and moderated by Dr. Sue Grayzel.

Mississippi Humanities Council Speaker Series "Ideas on Tap": What does our State Flag Symbolize? September 20th 2016. Presentation about the meaning of Mississippi state flag, its historical context and its effect on the racial landscape of Mississippi. This panel featured remarks from Dr. Stephanie Rolph (Millsaps College), Dr. Otis Pickett (Mississippi College), Marc Allen (Sons of Confederate Veterans), Dr. Wilma Mosley Clopton, and audience discussion. Moderated by MHC Executive Director Stuart Rockoff.

University of Mississippi, Center for the Study of Southern Culture Brown Bag Lecture Series, October 1, 2014. Otis W. Pickett, assistant professor of history at Mississippi College, and Patrick Elliot Alexander, UM assistant professor of English and African American Studies, present "'Genuine Solidarity' and Higher Education in Prison: Building a Prison-to-College Pipeline Program at Parchman."

40th Anniversary Celebration of Integration at the College of Charleston on January 11, 2008. Guest Speaker at the College of Charleston's Center for Multicultural Affairs Celebration of the 40th Anniversary of Integration at the College of Charleston. Presented research on integration at the College of Charleston as well as provided reflections on the historical impact of integration at the College of Charleston in 1968.

PUBLIC SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

2020 "We the People" : A Panel Discussion About Race Relations in the U.S. The Cross Cultural Committee from the Campus Programming Board at Mississippi College invited me and other panelists to discuss race, American History and how to move forward after the summer of 2020.

2020 Race in America: Truth Telling and Healing in a Broken World. In the wake of racial violence across American in the Summer of 2020, with the deaths of Ahmaud Arbery and George Floyd, I hosted a 10 week history class on Zoom for over 200 participants to examine race, American history and how we heal as a country. This was in partnership with historians and professors of religion which featured Dr. Bob Elder, Dr. Sean Lucas, Dr. Ansley Quiros, Dr. Patrick Connelly and Jemar Tisby as guest speakers.

African American Leadership Initiative Speaker's Series – Monday, February 13th, 2017. I was invited to speak on the topic "Race, Memory and How We Are Still Fighting the Civil War"

for AALI at RTS. I spoke from 6-8 P.M. on the topic to theology students, faculty and the general public about the history of the Lost Cause and its lingering impact on racial structures in the U.S. South.

William Carey University – Colloquium of the Presidential Honors Program in Hattiesburg, MS on Friday, January 6, 2017. I was invited to speak at the January Colloquium on the Prison to College Pipeline Program. The director of the Honor's Program (Dr. Jay Richardson) wrote that "His lecture encouraged our honors students to recognize how they could use their various gifts to address the unmet needs of our state. Students left colloquium on Friday desiring to better understand the challenges facing our neighbors so that they can meet the urgent needs of the most vulnerable members of our community."

Smith Robertson Museum for African American History and Culture in Jackson, MS on Thursday, April 22, 2016. I was invited by Pamela Junior, Director of the museum, and the Mississippi Humanities Council to be a part of a panel examining Confederate Heritage Month in Mississippi and my presentation focused on how whites could lend their voices to the ongoing struggle to remove symbols of hatred from the state flag and from celebrating Confederate heritage by official government proclamation. I also helped place this heritage month in the long historical context of the Lost Cause and Lost Cause ideology in the South.

Hearts United Gathering on Thursday, February 18, 2016. I was asked by the organization One Community United of Rome, GA to serve as the keynote speaker for the event for community wide racial reconciliation in Rome, GA. Over 700 were in attendance and I spoke for almost an hour. I also met with the organizing committee the following morning to help the committee think through the reconciliation process in their community.

City of Clinton Riot of 1875 Commemoration & Historical Markers Dedication "Using the Past to Bridge a Future of Understanding and Reconciliation" September 3rd and 4th, 2015. Invited to speak on the context of Reconstruction, how Reconstruction has been interpreted and the importance of remembering events like the Clinton Riot in terms of moving forward in racial reconciliation. On the following day I served as the narrator for a dramatic reading of "Voices of the Clinton Riot," which was a historical narrative of the events including primary documents and testimonies from the Boutwell Report that I also helped edit.

INTERVIEWS GIVEN FOR MEDIA/PUBLISHED ARTICLES

Red Flag Podcast. I, along with Dr. Robby Lockett, served as a guest on the Podastery Studios show Red Flag, which is a podcast about the Mississippi flag and Confederate symbols and ideology. There are several episodes and our episode "A History of _____" discusses the history of the Mississippi Flag, Religion and Lost Cause Ideology. <https://redflagpod.fireside.fm/3>

Mississippi Public Broadcasting, Mississippi Affiliate Station for National Public Radio. "Mississippi Edition" Myself and my colleague Dr. Patrick Alexander were interviewed by Karen Brown of MPB for her show "Mississippi Edition," which airs weekday mornings across the state. The subject of the interview was the Prison to College Pipeline Program.

The University of Mississippi News – "Program Transforms Incarcerated Men into College Students: New Initiative Giving Parchman Penitentiary Residents a Fresh Start in Life" by Edwin Smith. I and my colleague Dr. Patrick Alexander were interviewed for our work with the

Prison to College Pipeline Program and Parchman, MSP. This appeared on the official university website on September 21, 2015.

http://news.olemiss.edu/um-program-transforms-incarcerated-men-college-students/?utm_source=social&utm_medium=twitter&utm_campaign=socialanalytics

Clarion Ledger – “Professors Making Investments in the Future” by Jerry Mitchell. I was interviewed by award winning journalist Jerry Mitchell for the Clarion Ledger about my work with the Prison to College Pipeline Program. This article appeared in the October 25, 2014 edition of that publication. <http://www.clarionledger.com/story/news/2014/10/25/profs-making-investments-future/17938855/>

The Beacon – “Teaching Behind Bars: Otis Pickett and the Prison to College Pipeline Program” by Marlo Kirkpatrick and Tracey Harrison. I was interviewed by the official Alumni magazine of Mississippi College for an in-depth interview about the development of the Prison to College Pipeline Program and Prison Education. This appeared in the Winter 2015 edition. <http://mc.edu/beacon/spring-2015/features/teaching-behind-bars>

Reformed African American Network “Pass the Mic” by Jemar Tisby. The night of the shooting at Emmanuelle AME in Charleston, SC I was asked to come on a live streaming edition of Pass the Mic to discuss and add historical perspective to the shooting by Dylan Ruff at the historic African American congregation. On this panel was the Dean of Students at Covenant Seminary Mike Higgins, Professor of Theology at Redeemer Seminary Dr. Carl Ellis and myself. <https://www.raanetwork.org/pass-the-mic-live-charleston-shooting/> I have also appeared on Pass the Mic to discuss a Faith and Politics during an election season: <https://www.raanetwork.org/pass-the-mic-faith-and-politics-in-an-election-season/>

Choctaw (Mississippi College Blog) “Profound Professors” by Nolie Ramsey
I was the first professor to be interviewed in a new student driven portion of the official blog of MC called Profound Professors. This was a great honor for me to be the first professor selected by the students to be interviewed for the blog. I spoke about my interests in history, racial reconciliation and prison education. <http://choctaw.mc.edu/blog/2015/9/8/profound-professors-dr-otis-pickett>

VisitClintonMS.com “The Clinton Riot of 1875” by Brandon Morgan. I was interviewed by this website about the history of the Clinton Riot and my role as a committee member who helped develop a symposium and conference around the event. <http://www.visitclintonms.com/clinton-riot>

CONTINUING EDUCATION

Leadership Clinton, Acceptance into and graduate of the 2015 class of Leadership Clinton, which is meant to train the next generation of community leaders. Our team organized a state historical marker unveiling as well as worked with teachers at Sumer Hill Junior High to help think through how best to teach the history of the City of Clinton.

Mississippi Geographic Alliance, Acceptance into the Mississippi Geographic Alliance’s Teacher Consultant Training Program. Summer of 2014. Taking graduate courses and seminars at the University of Mississippi to enhance knowledge and pedagogical thinking in Geography. Acceptance into the program comes with scholarship for courses as well as rooms and meals paid for.

GRANTS RECEIVED

The Prison to College Pipeline has been invited to apply for a 3 year, \$50,000.00 a year grant to support higher education in Mississippi through the Laughing Gull foundation.

The Prison to College Pipeline – Central Mississippi Correctional Facility Program – received \$10,000.00-\$11,700.00 from the Mississippi Humanities Council to teach courses in American Literature, U.S. History and Interpersonal Communications in the summer of 2017 to present. The Prison to College Pipeline Program received a \$5,000.00 grant from the Mississippi Humanities Council to teach a course on Southern Women’s History to 20 incarcerated learners at Central Correctional Facility in the summer of 2016.

The Prison to College Pipeline Program received a \$12,000.00 grant three separate times totaling \$36,000 (over three years) from the University of Mississippi to teach a course on Civil Rights History and Literature to 20 pre-release incarcerated learners at Parchman Penitentiary in the summers of 2014-2016.

The Magnolia Clemson Alumni Association received a \$3,500.00 grant from the Clemson Alumni Association for the “Tigers United” Program that I created. This program partners students in the Call Me Mister program at Jackson State University with local Clemson Alumni in service projects and professional development.

DEPARTMENT COMMITTEE WORK

Mississippi College

Representative on Faculty Council, I began service on the Mississippi College Faculty Council in April of 2018 and I represent my colleagues in the School of Humanities and Social Sciences.

Author of National Council for the Social Studies SPA National Accreditation Report – Mississippi College (University), Clinton, MS.

Since the Fall of the 2013 gathered data on student teachers and then in the June of 2017 began writing national accreditation report for the B.S.Ed. Program in Social Studies Education.

Submitted the report on September 14, 2017. In February of 2018 we learned that the program received national recognition and accreditation from the NCSS.

Faculty Advisor for *Pi Gamma Mu*, International Honors Society for the Social Sciences. I helped in re-chartering of the organization at Mississippi College, hosted the first interest meeting, submitted the first members for admission since 1994 and helped co-host the induction ceremony along with the History and Political Science Honor Societies.

Director of the B.S.Ed. (Social Studies Education) Program in the Department of History and Political Science at Mississippi College. I oversee student progress, advise students, teach methods course and supervise student teaching. This requires close work with the School of Education and maintaining the CATE standards for national accreditation.

Director of the M.Ed. (Social Science History) Program in the Department of History and Political Science at Mississippi College. I advise and recruit students to the M.Ed. program and teach some of their graduate history classes. I also direct student progress in the program.

Clerk of the Department, I recorded and distributed the minutes of Faculty Meetings of the Department of History and Political Science at Mississippi College in 2015.

Chair Search Committee Member, I served as a member of the committee that put together a chair search in the Fall and Spring of 2015-2016. We successfully received multiple applications, went through an interview process and invited two candidates for on campus visits. As a result, Dr. Patrick Connelly became our new department chair.

Administrative Assistant Search Committee Member, I served as a member of the committee that assembled the search for a new administrative assistant in the Summer of 2016. We successfully received multiple applications, reviewed them, went through the interview process, invited three candidates to interview and voted on the final candidate: Tori Marshall.

Preview Day Parents Panel, from 2014-2018 I have been asked to speak as the faculty representative for parents and potential students attending preview day. I have spoken to the two largest preview day audiences in school history and with a record enrollment in the Fall of 2015.

Faculty Devotional Presentation, I was asked by Dean Jonathan Randle to give the opening devotional on October 2, 2015 at the general (schoolwide) faculty meeting. I was asked to give the devotional to open the general faculty meeting and presented a devotional on Revelation 3.

The University of Mississippi

EDCI 353 – Team Leader and Director, lead faculty teaching EDCI 353 in course content, curriculum development and implementation of assessments. We were the first semester that TeachLive was ever incorporated into EDCI 353 curriculum

School of Education Assessment Committee, Committee Member, worked toward developing collaborative research opportunities for faculty in the School of Education with Dr. Kevin Stoltz and Dr. Kaye Pepper.

Secondary Education Committee, Committee Member, Department of Teacher Education at the University of Mississippi, Fall 2012.

EDCI 352 Team, Committee Member, Department of Teacher Education at the University of Mississippi, Fall 2012.

EDEL 401 Team, Committee Member, Department of Teacher Education at the University of Mississippi, Fall 2012.

EDSE 447 Team, Committee Member, Department of Teacher Education at the University of Mississippi, Fall 2012.

Department of Teacher Education, Benevolence Committee Chairman, School of Education at the University of Mississippi, Fall 2012.

Member of School of Education Book Club, Presenter and Participant, School of Education at the University of Mississippi, Fall 2012.

2012 School of Education Birmingham Field Trip to Civil Rights Institute and McWane Science Center. Faculty Attendee and Chaperone, School of Education at the University of Mississippi, Fall 2012.

Teacher Education Recruitment, Committee Member and Participant, School of Education at the University of Mississippi, Fall 2012.

Faculty Writing/Research Group, Member, School of Education at the University of Mississippi, Fall 2012. Meetings are once a week to share writing samples, set goals and provide accountability for future writing projects.

Graduate Advisory Committee, Committee Chair, Department of History at the University of Mississippi, 2009-2010.

Orientation Forum for First Year History Graduate Students, Panel Chair, Department of History at the University of Mississippi, August 2010.

Graduate Advisory Committee, Student Representative, Department of History at the University of Mississippi, Spring 2009.

Interdepartmental Committee of the Joint History Program at the College of Charleston and The Citadel, Graduate Representative, 2007.

African American Student Recruitment, Graduate Assistant, College of Charleston History Department, Summer 2007.

UNIVERSITY COMMITTEES

Mississippi College

Co-Chairman (with Dr. Laurie Lawson) Christians Understanding Race and Equity (CURE) Committee, I began serve on this committee as the co-chairman in the Fall of 2020. We will investigate the institutions history, pursue processes of truth and reconciliation as well as make recommendations to the administration regarding how to make Mississippi College a more equitable space surrounding issues of race and racial inequality.

Joint Academic & Admissions Recruitment Committee JAARC, served as a founding member of this committee, which will be a collaborative effort between academic departments and admissions the purpose is to provide a platform for the cross-pollination of ideas and recruitment initiatives between admissions and academics. This includes (1) the sharing of department updates and “selling points,” (2) further incorporating faculty into recruitment initiatives, and (3) providing an avenue for strengthening the relationship between admissions and the various academic units across campus.

Inauguration Committee, Served on the Inauguration Committee for the Inauguration of MC’s 20th President (Dr. Blake Thompson). I co-organized the Chapel Service on Tuesday, March 26th 2019 and served as a delegate to the inauguration from Clemson University.

Faculty Council, Mississippi College Faculty Council, 2018-present.

Professional Education Advisory Committee (PEAC), active member of university wide committee at Mississippi College from 2013-present.

Undergraduate Core Curriculum Study Committee, active member of the university wide committee at Mississippi College from 2017-present.

The University of Mississippi

Oxford Chapter of Mission Mississippi, *Co-Chairman* with Donald Cole of the Oxford/University Chapter of Mission Mississippi (longest sustained organization working for racial reconciliation in the country), 2010-2012

Graduate Student Council, *Special Assistant to the President for Graduate Health*, University of Mississippi, 2010-present.

Graduate Student Council, *Senator*, Representing History Department, University of Mississippi, 2008-2010.

Graduate Student Council, *Elections Chair*, University of Mississippi, 2009-2010.

The College of Charleston

Graduate Student Association, *Student Body President*, Founding member, co-author of constitution and first President of the GSA at the College of Charleston, 2007-2008. I helped write the constitution, created a senate and organized all graduate student events, elections and fundraisers.

Board of Trustees Student Affairs Sub-Committee, *Committee member*, College of Charleston, 2007.

Graduate Council Committee, *GSA Representative*, College of Charleston, 2007.

Student Organizations Guide, *Board member*, College of Charleston, 2007.

American Red Cross Blood Drive, *Committee member*, College of Charleston, 2007.

PROFESSTIONAL MEMEBERSHIP COMMITTEE WORK

Chairman of the Franklin Riley Dissertation Prize for the Mississippi Historical Society, 2019-2020. I have served as chairman of the committee. We received seven dissertations and reviewed them. We then, as a committee, chose the best dissertation and awarded the recipient at the 2020 Mississippi Historical Society Meeting in Cleveland, MS.

President, St. George Tucker Society. In the Summer of 2016 I was nominated, voted and accepted the position of President. This also carries the responsibility of planning and organizing the 2017 conference, which was the 25th meeting of the St. George Tucker society held in Jackson, MS in the July of 2017. I now serve as the treasurer of the society.

Board Member, Mississippi Historical Society. In the spring of 2016 I was nominated and accepted a board membership of the Mississippi Historical Society. This is the oldest society of historians in the state. My duties have been to help plan the annual conference and serve to support the activities and mission of the society.

President, Mississippi Council of the Social Studies from 2014-2015, I served as President-Elect of the organization and served as President for the 2015-2016 year. I was in charge of the Spring Professional Teacher Workshop Conference, I sat on the board of the MCSS and will planned and organized the 2016 Annual Conference in Hattiesburg, MS.

Chair of the Brooks Dissertation Forum, St. George Tucker Society, The St. George Tucker Society is an interdisciplinary organization of scholars who study the U.S. South. The Brooks Dissertation Forum invites young scholars beginning Ph.D. work to present papers to the organization with the idea of mentoring younger scholars in the field. I oversaw the announcement of the forum, sent out a national call for papers, organized a committee of evaluators, evaluated applications and chose three young scholars to present from 2014-2015. I then presided as chair of the panel during the conference both years.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Historical Association

Organization of American Historians

Southern Historical Association

Southern American Studies Association

St. George Tucker Society, **President, 2016-2017, Treasurer, 2018-present, Chairman of Brooks Forum, 2014-2015.**

South Carolina Historical Association

Mississippi Historical Society, **Board Member 2016-2019.**

Mississippi Historical Society, **Franklin Riley Dissertation Prize Chairman, 2019-2020.**

National Council for the Social Studies

Southern History of Education Society

Mississippi Council for the Social Studies, **President, 2016-2017. President-Elect, 2015.**

Mississippi Geographic Alliance, **Board Member 2015-2017.**

National Council of Higher Education in Prison (NCHEP)

VOLUNTEERING/PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Anti-Racism Study Group at Mississippi College. Co-Founder and Group Facilitator. In the Fall of 2020 I helped organize an Anti-Racism Study Group for Students at Mississippi College. I also serve as the facilitator for one of the groups, which meets each Friday.

Northside Elementary School – “Historic Tour of Clinton” to 3rd Graders. Led a walking tour of Clinton with 200 3rd graders at Northside Elementary and their teachers. We start at Mississippi College, go to the brick streets end at the marker for Charles Caldwell. I teach the students about the history of Clinton and of the university.

Mississippi College – Chenoa Social Tribe – March 7, 2017. I was invited by the President of Chenoa to come and speak at their chapter meeting on the important of racial reconciliation and the difficult history of race and in the state of Mississippi and at Mississippi College.

Mississippi College – Resident Assistant Training Seminar – February 26, 2017. I was invited by the office of Residence Life to speak to all of the Resident Assistants at Mississippi College about the issue of race and reconciliation. The speech was entitled “Bridging the Racial Divide” and featured myself and Justin Jones-Fosu. We spoke, participated in a question and answer session and then lead breakout sessions with groups of RAs.

Mississippi College History Club. “The Prison to College Pipeline” November 15th, 2018. I was invited by the President of MC History Club (Emma Reiner) to give a lecture on the history of incarceration in MS and the connection of that incarceration with slavery, the Civil Rights movement and the ongoing connections between those two and mass incarceration in the modern era.

Clemson Alumni Advisory Council, *Member*, member of the council representing the Magnolia Clemson Club to the Clemson Alumni Association, 2015- present.

Clinton Chamber of Commerce, *Board Member*, member of the board of directors, 2015-2017.

Woodmoor Neighborhood Homeowners Association, *Board Member*, member of the board of directors 2014-2019.

Leadership Clinton, *Participant and graduate (2015 Class)*, participant in Leadership Clinton beginning in December 2014-September 2015. Nominated by Alderman (David Ellis).

Mississippi College School of Education Student Teacher Training, *Guest Speaker*, from 2014-2015, I have served Dr. Rachel Peebles and MC student teachers by speaking to them about Prison Education as a part of the their preparation for student teaching each semester.

Magnolia Clemson Club, *Secretary*, Member and Co-founder of the Clemson Alumni Association’s Alumni Club in Mississippi. Was a founding member of the organization and served on the first executive board as secretary and chairman for community service. We organized all of the events and applied for grant funding to partner with Jackson State University in a program called Tigers United, which is meant to benefit the Call Me Mister Program at JSU.

Duke Divinity School, Summer Institute, *Participant*, May 28-June 2, 2012. Attended and participated in Duke Divinity School’s Summer Institute in Durham, NC on behalf of the William

Winter Institute for Racial Reconciliation at the University of Mississippi to be trained and to learn about diversity and reconciliation in academic institutions.

United Way of Oxford, MS, Pantry Organizer, June 2011. The Pantry serves food to members of the Oxford Community in need. I was the June 2011 organizer. I organized volunteers, worked with USDA food deliveries, stocked shelves and assisted customers.

Regents School of Oxford, *Assistant Pee-wee and JV Football Coach*, July-August 2010.

Mission Mississippi for Racial Reconciliation, Lafayette Co. Chapter, founding member, June 2010.

Constitution Day, Judge and Panelist, sat on a panel of judges that examined presentations and offered feedback to high school students regarding the history of Republicanism and American Democracy, Sponsored by the School of Education at The University of Mississippi, February 2011.

Teach Mississippi Institute, *Candidate*, Completion Certificate and State Certification in K-12 Social Studies Instruction in Mississippi, September 2009. Certification is for the 2011-2012 school year.

40 Year Anniversary of Integration at the College of Charleston Exhibition Committee, *Research Consultant*, 2007.

Brown Fellowship Society Cemetery Marker Project at the College of Charleston, *Research Assistant*, 2007.

Adande African American Arts Festival, *Co-facilitator*, Roundtable Discussion entitled, "Conversations with the Elders," November 1-4, 2007.

National History Day, *Judge and Quiz Bowl Facilitator*, The University of Mississippi Annual celebration of National History Day, March 2009-March 2012. Also served the National History Day organization for the "Triumph and Tragedy" Competition Region #1 in Charleston, SC. I worked with young scholars from around the state to evaluate student presentations. Discussed research and findings while interviewing students about their topics, interests, as well as provided insight into how they might be able to further their study, 2007.

Forthcoming 2020-2021

- 1) Invited Lecture at Mt. Saint Mary's College on "Charleston and African American History" with Dr. Tim Fritz. (potentially October 2019)
- 2) Presentation at Conference on Faith and History (Fall 2021)