

DELTA STATE UNIVERSITY



WINNING THE RACE

Millenials in Motion: Channeling the Winner Within

MARCH 24 - 26, 2019

**EVERY DECISION YOU
MAKE, EVERY CHOICE YOU
MAKE, EVERY ACTION
YOU MAKE WILL NOT JUST
BE A REFLECTION ON YOU
BUT A REFLECTION ON
EVERYONE WHO HAS
MADE YOU POSSIBLE.**

DR. WILLIAM C. BELL

President/CEO Casey Family Programs





Delta State University

Office of the President

March 24, 2019

Welcome to Delta State University and to the sixth annual “Winning the Race” conference!

This year’s theme is “Millennials in Motion: Channeling the Winner Within.” Outstanding faculty and presenters will lead discussions on various ways in which race and race relations intersect areas of our daily lives — from politics, economics, health, and housing to education, entertainment, art, and science. This dynamic conference promises to be as enlightening and meaningful as our previous years’ experiences, and I encourage your full participation.

The Winning the Race Conference was developed with three overarching goals, and it is our hope that conference participants will benefit from the outcomes of each focus area:

1. **Engage** participants in conversations with campus and community constituencies that will build an appreciation for diversity differences and a spirit of community through shared ideas;
2. **Promote** a broad discourse on race relations by building conversations to bring together diverse communities in the Delta through sharing of ideas and building cooperation; and
3. **Rekindle** a hope that Delta communities will move toward greater equality as well as forward- and open-thinking, while reducing racial disparities and tensions.

I am grateful for your engagement with Delta State in this signature conference, and I welcome you to our beautiful campus!

All the best,

William N. LaForge
President



Left: President LaForge speaks with activist Dave Dennis, a speaker at last year’s event.
Right: LaForge makes a point at the 2018 Winning the Race Conference.



WINNING THE RACE

Millennials in Motion: Channeling the Winner Within

DELTA STATE UNIVERSITY

The Winning the Race Conference was developed with three overarching goals: engage in conversations with campus and community constituencies that will build an appreciation for diversity differences and a spirit of community through shared ideas; promote a broad discourse on race relations by building conversations to bring together diverse communities in the Delta through sharing of ideas and building cooperation; and to rekindle a hope that Delta communities will move toward greater equality and forward and open thinking while reducing racial disparities and tensions. The 2018 program is offered with support from Casey Family Programs and the Mississippi Humanities Council.



BREAKOUT SESSION TRACKS

SOCIAL JUSTICE, CIVIL RIGHTS & LAW

This track has sessions designed to address a diverse set of issues related to civil rights, racial equity and racial healing. There is a focus on addressing racial differences in the implementation of law in the criminal justice system and associated societal consequences.

ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES

This track addresses matters relating to equity and economic opportunities with an emphasis on how societal organizations advance or restrict socioeconomic opportunities and mobility among diverse groups. Sessions will emphasize the important roles that diversity and inclusion play in creating economic opportunity on local and global scales.

EDUCATION & COMMUNITY

This track addresses diversity in the college curriculum and diversity in student leadership. The segment includes conversations on how to teach race and race relations in the classroom at both conceptual and practical levels, as well as from historical perspectives. It facilitates dialogue on positive race relations as well as on meaningful actions to foster understanding that builds strong relationships for connected communities. Global perspectives are incorporated in all sessions.

CULTURE & COMMUNITY

This track addresses the institutionalization of best practices for inclusion, cultural awareness and respect for differences, while charting avenues for sustained action in diverse communities. Sessions will help to create change through a spirit of cooperation by motivating participants to enhance their appreciation for experiences and perspectives shaped by culture, to create positive change in their communities, and to spread awareness by cooperating and forming alliances with diverse groups.

*** = Sessions marked with dual stars are suggested for educational stakeholders and those earning CEUs during the conference*



WINNING THE RACE

Millennials in Motion: Channeling the Winner Within

DELTA STATE UNIVERSITY

Sunday, March 24, 2019

COMMUNITY OPENING & RECOGNITIONS

2 PM–4 PM \\ Amzie Moore House Museum & Interpretive Center, 614 South Chrisman Street

Monday, March 25, 2019

REGISTRATION

8 AM–5 PM \\ Bologna Performing Arts Center (BPAC)

OPENING SESSION

9 AM–10:50 AM \\ Shaun King, Keynote
Delta and Pine Land Theatre, BPAC

POSTER COMPETITION

11 AM–11:50 AM \\ Tims Gallery, BPAC

BREAKOUT SESSION I

11 AM–11:50 AM

TRACK 1: Social Justice, Civil Rights, & Law
Pamela Junior, Mississippi Civil Rights Museum
Jobe Auditorium, Jobe Hall

TRACK 2: Economic Opportunities

Vickie Powell, Mississippi Economic Council
Caylor Hall, Room 100

PRESIDENT'S LUNCHEON

12 PM–1:50 PM

Rep. Jeramey Anderson, Keynote
Jacob Conference Center

BREAKOUT SESSION II

2 PM–3:15 PM

TRACK 3: Education & Community
"Delta Proud" Session (Casey Family Programs)
Woodward Hines
Jobe Auditorium, Jobe Hall

TRACK 4: Culture & Community

DMI: Healing with a Groove
Caylor Hall, Room 100

SPECIAL PRESENTATION

3:30 PM–5:30 PM

SGA & Social Justice Club Panel
Jobe Auditorium, Jobe Hall

Tuesday, March 26, 2019

REGISTRATION

7:30 AM–10 AM \\ Lobby, BPAC

FACULTY FORUMS

8 AM–9:15 AM

Delta State University Colleges and Schools:
College of Arts and Sciences, Jobe Hall, Auditorium
College of Business and Aviation, Baioni Center, Broom Hall
College of Education and Human Sciences, Jacob Conference Center, Ewing Hall
Robert E. Smith School of Nursing, School of Nursing, Room 141

BREAKOUT SESSION III

9:25 AM–10:40 AM

TRACK 1: Social Justice, Civil Rights, & Law
"Delta Proud" Session (Casey Family Programs)
School Discipline, Fluency Plau
Earl Watkins, et al.
Jobe Auditorium, Jobe Hall

TRACK 4: Culture & Community

Race & Religion
Mission Mississippi, Ro Taylor, Larry Haywood, Seth Still
Recital Hall, BPAC

BREAKOUT SESSION IV

10:50 AM–12:05 PM

TRACK 3: Education & Community
Justin Lofton, Teen Health Mississippi
Jobe Auditorium, Jobe Hall

TRACK 2: Economic Opportunities

"Delta Proud" Session (Casey Family Programs)
Focus Groups
Lolita Ross, et al.
Recital Hall, BPAC

CLOSING CELEBRATION & AWARDS

12:15 PM–1:30 PM // Jobe Auditorium, Jobe Hall

CLOSING RECEPTION

1:30 PM // Jobe Hall Foyer

The 2018 program is offered with support from Casey Family Programs and the Mississippi Humanities Council.

Teacher and School Counselor Education Credits Available. Contact wtr@deltastate.edu for more information.

**WE MUST NOT ALLOW
OTHERS TO TRY TO
SEPARATE US FROM EACH
OTHER, BUT INSTEAD
FIND THE MANY
SIMILARITIES WE SHARE**

GOV. WILLIAM WINTER
Former Governor, State of Mississippi





WINNING THE RACE

Millennials in Motion: Channeling the Winner Within

DELTA STATE UNIVERSITY

Sunday, March 24, 2019

Amzie Moore House Museum & Interpretive Center
Open House and Civil Rights Veterans Program

PROGRAM AGENDA

WELCOME

James McBride, *Bolivar County Board of Supervisors, District 4*
William N. LaForge, *President, Delta State University*

REMARKS

Cynthia Palmer, *Veterans of the Mississippi Civil Rights Movement*

RECOGNITION OF HONOREES

Will Hooker, *Bolivar County Administrator*

THE HAWKINS FAMILY
MARGARET KIBBEE
BRINSON FUNERAL HOME
VOSS PLUMBING

REMARKS

Emily Jones, *Delta State University Archivist, AMHM Curator*
Dr. Temika Simmons, *Winning the Race Conference, Co-Chair, Delta State University*
Dr. Chuck Westmoreland, *Winning the Race Conference, Co-Chair, Delta State University*

MARCH 24-26, 2019 || www.deltastate.edu/winningtherace

This program is offered with support from Casey Family Program and the Mississippi Humanities Council

AMZIE MOORE HOUSE MUSEUM & INTERPRETIVE CENTER

Contact Information

Open House
March 24, 2019
2 PM to 4 PM

614 South Chrisman
Cleveland, MS 38732
(662) 846-4780



Bolivar
County
Board of
Supervisors

For more information:

EMILY JONES
ejones@deltastate.edu

WILL HOOKER
whooper@co.bolivar.ms.us

DR. TEMIKA SIMMONS
tsimmons@deltastate.edu



WINNING THE RACE

Millennials in Motion: Channeling the Winner Within

DELTA STATE UNIVERSITY

Monday, March 25, 2019

REGISTRATION

8 AM - 5:30 PM \\ BOLOGNA PERFORMING ARTS CENTER (BPAC)

OPENING SESSION

9 AM - 10:50 AM \\ DELTA & PINE LAND THEATRE, BPAC

KEYNOTE SPEAKER: Shaun King

POSTER COMPETITION

11 AM - 11:50 AM \\ TIMS GALLERY, BPAC

BREAKOUT SESSION I

11 AM - 11:50 AM

TRACK 1

SOCIAL JUSTICE, CIVIL RIGHTS & LAW \\ Jobe Auditorium, Jobe Hall

PRESENTER: Pamela Junior, Mississippi Civil Rights Museum

TRACK 2

ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES \\ Room 100, R.L. Caylor Hall

PRESENTER: Vickie Powell, Mississippi Economic Council

PRESIDENT'S LUNCHEON

12 PM - 1:50 PM \\ JACOB CONFERENCE CENTER

KEYNOTE SPEAKER: Miss. Rep. Jeramey Anderson, District 110

BREAKOUT SESSION II

2 PM - 3:15 PM

TRACK 3

EDUCATION AND COMMUNITY \\ Jobe Auditorium, Jobe Hall

PRESENTER: Woodward Hines

TRACK 3

CULTURE AND COMMUNITY \\ Room 100, R.L. Caylor Hall

PRESENTER: DMI: Healing with a Groove



SPECIAL PRESENTATION

3:30 PM - 5:30 PM

EDUCATION AND COMMUNITY \\ Jobe Auditorium, Jobe Hall

PRESENTER: Student Government Association & Social Justice Club Panel

Tuesday, March 26, 2019

REGISTRATION

7:30 AM - 10 AM \\ BPAC

FACULTY FORUMS

8 AM - 9:15 AM \\ BPAC

COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES

THREADING CULTURAL DIVERSITY THROUGH THE FABRIC OF HEALTHCARE DELIVERY

PRESENTERS:

Debbie Allen, MSN, RN; Addie Herrod, DNP, APRN, FNP-BC; Donna Hill, DNP, APRN, NP-C;
Stephanie Hodnett, MSN, APRN, FNP-BC

Robert E. Smith School of Nursing, Room 141

COLLEGE OF BUSINESS & AVIATION

CULTURAL DIVERSITY AND THE BUSINESS WORLD

PRESENTERS:

Dr. Melody Fortune

Baioni Center

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION & HUMAN SCIENCES

PRESENTERS:

MAKING THE CONNECTION OF NUTRITION, MENTAL HEALTH, AND ACADEMIC SUCCESS

Dr. Mary Bess Pannel

CULTURALLY RESPONSIVE TEACHING STANDARDS

Drs. Corlis Snow, Paula Tharp, & Jacqueline Craven

AFRICAN AMERICAN STUDENTS' ON BARRIERS TO OUTDOOR RECREATION

Dr. Todd Davis

Jacob Conference Center

COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES

TEACHING ISSUES OF DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION IN THE ARTS AND SCIENCES CLASSROOM

PRESENTERS:

Dr. Breaux, Moderating
Chuck and Chip, Coordinating

PANELISTS:

Dr. Carrie Freshour (Sociology)
Dr. Robert Kagumba (Biology and Science Education)
Prof. Shalando Jones (Communication Studies)

Jobe Auditorium

BREAKOUT SESSION III

9:25 AM - 10:40 AM

TRACK 1

SOCIAL JUSTICE, CIVIL RIGHTS & LAW \\ Jobe Auditorium, Jobe Hall

PRESENTERS: Dale Bailey, William Swindol, Ken Swindol, Lachada Robie-Purnell

TRACK 4

CULTURE AND COMMUNITY \\ Recital Hall, BPAC

PRESENTERS: Neddie Winters, Ro Taylor, Dr. Larry Haywood, Seth Still

BREAKOUT SESSION IV

10:25 AM - 12:05 PM

TRACK 3

EDUCATION AND COMMUNITY \\ Jobe Auditorium, Jobe Hall

PRESENTER: Justin Lofton, Teen Health Mississippi

TRACK 2

ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES \\ Recital Hall, BPAC

PRESENTERS: Jackie Hawkins, LeKesha Perry, Danny Thompson

CLOSING CELEBRATION & AWARDS

12:15 PM - 1:30 PM \\ JOBE AUDITORIUM, JOBE HALL

CLOSING RECEPTION

1:30 PM \\ JOBE HALL FOYER



Attendees gather at the Bologna Performing Arts Center for the 2018 Winning the Race Conference.



**WE MUST MOVE
PAST THE OLD
DIVISION OF RACE
AND RECOGNIZE
OUR COMMON
INTERESTS AND
OUR COMMON
HUMANITY**

Gov. WILLIAM WINTER
Former Governor, State of Mississippi









Campus Map

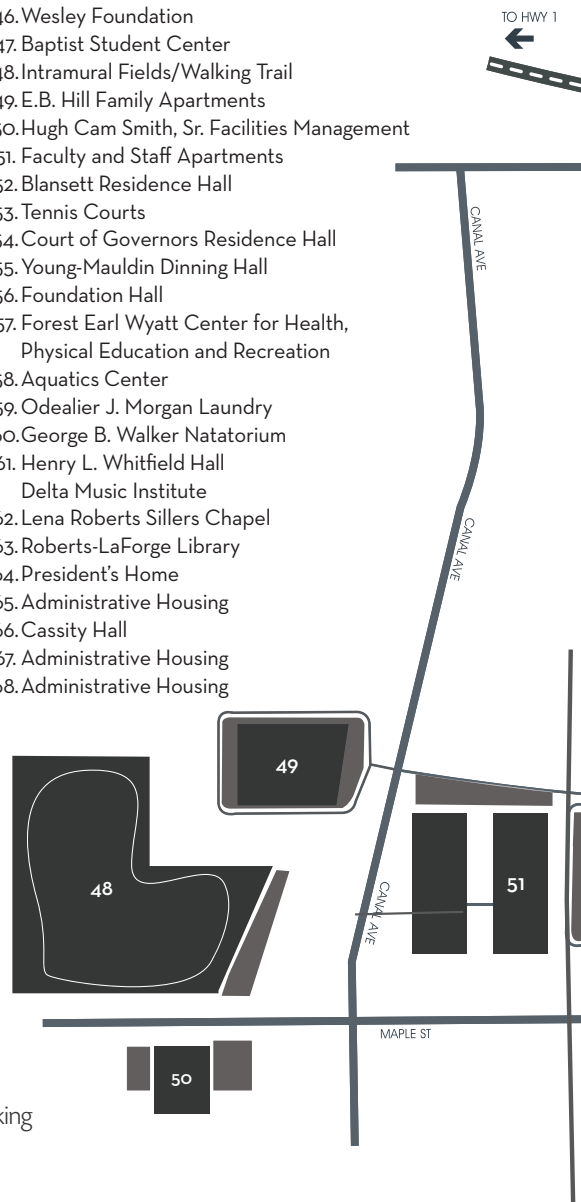
CAMPUS FACILITIES

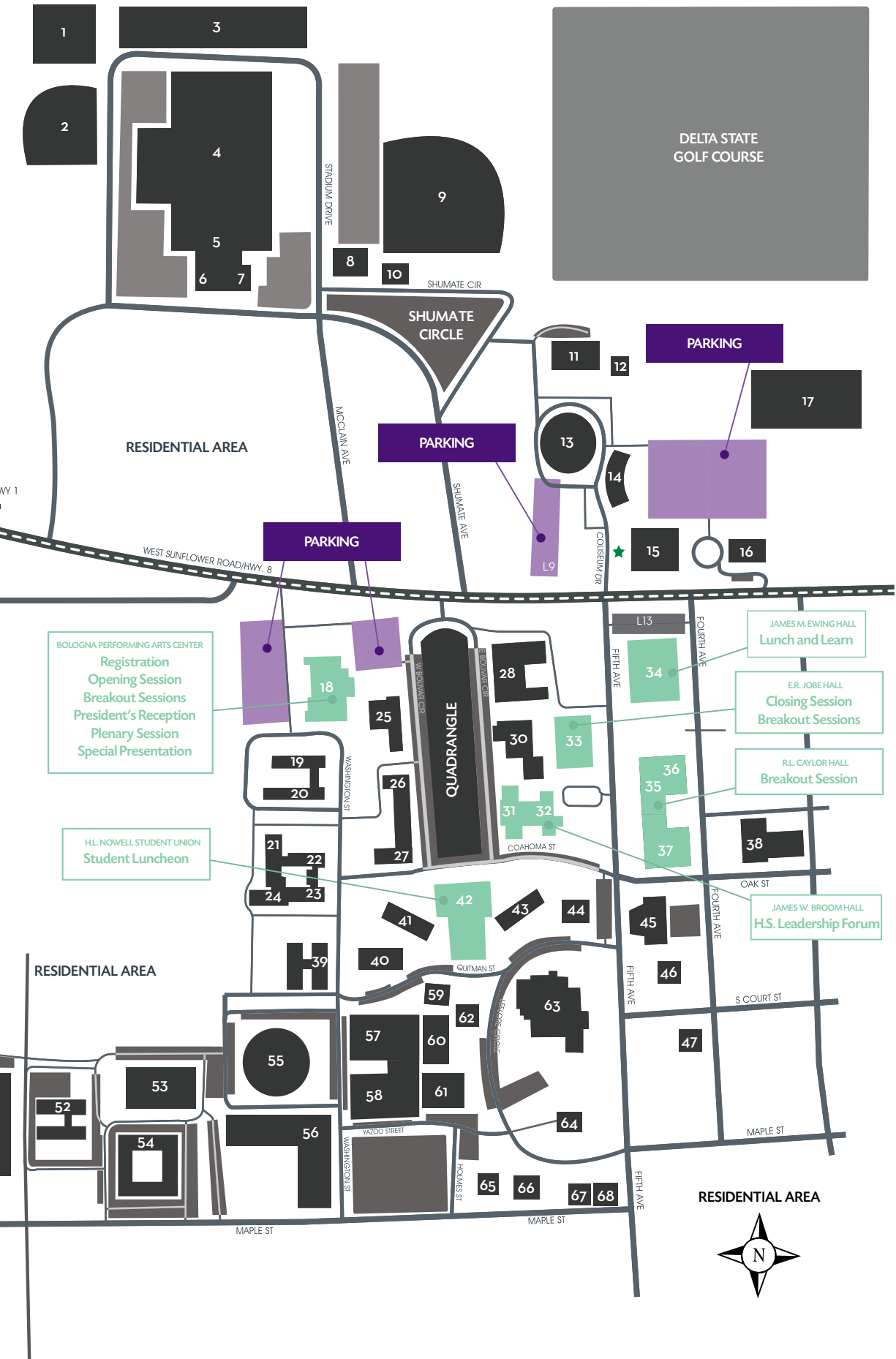
1. Soccer Field
2. Softball Field
3. Statesman Park
4. Travis E. Parker Field/Horace McCool Stadium - Football
5. Billy Dorgan, Jr. Student Performance Center
6. Chadwick-Dickson Intercollegiate Athletic Building
7. J.A. "Bud" Thigpen, Jr. Baseball Annex
8. Bryce Griffis Indoor Practice Facility
9. Dave "Boo" Ferriss Field – Baseball
Dave "Boo" Ferriss Statue
10. Robert L. Crawford Center & Dave "Boo" Ferriss Museum
11. Tennis Courts
12. Darrell Foreman Golf Course
13. Walter Sillers Coliseum
14. Hugh L. White Hall
15. Kent Wyatt Hall
16. Hugh Ellis Walker Alumni-Foundation House
17. GRAMMY Museum Mississippi
18. Bologna Performing Arts Center
and The Hazel and Jimmy Sanders Sculpture Garden
19. Harkins Residence Hall
20. Lawler Residence Hall
21. Hammett Residence Hall
22. Tatum Residence Hall
23. Cain Residence Hall
24. Fugler Residence Hall
25. William H. Zeigel Music Center
26. Thomas L. Bailey Hall
27. Hamilton-White Child Development Center
28. W.M. Kethley Hall
29. Fielding L. Wright Art Center
30. Holcomb-Norwood Hall
31. James W. Broom Hall
32. Kathryn Keener Hall
33. E.R. Jobe Hall
34. James M. Ewing Hall
Delta Center for Culture and Learning
35. Eleanor Boyd Walters Hall
36. Roy and Clara Belle Wiley Planetarium
37. R.L. Caylor/Jessie S. White Hall

38. Robert E. Smith School of Nursing
39. Brumby-Castle Residence Hall
40. O.W. Reily Student Health Center
41. Ward Hall
42. H.L. Nowell Union
Bookstore/Visitor's Center
Food Court
43. Cleveland Residence Hall
44. Charles W. Capps, Jr. Archives & Museum
45. Gibson-Gunn Commercial Aviation
46. Wesley Foundation
47. Baptist Student Center
48. Intramural Fields/Walking Trail
49. E.B. Hill Family Apartments
50. Hugh Cam Smith, Sr. Facilities Management
51. Faculty and Staff Apartments
52. Blansett Residence Hall
53. Tennis Courts
54. Court of Governors Residence Hall
55. Young-Mauldin Dinning Hall
56. Foundation Hall
57. Forest Earl Wyatt Center for Health,
Physical Education and Recreation
58. Aquatics Center
59. Odealier J. Morgan Laundry
60. George B. Walker Natatorium
61. Henry L. Whitfield Hall
Delta Music Institute
62. Lena Roberts Sillers Chapel
63. Roberts-LaForge Library
64. President's Home
65. Administrative Housing
66. Cassity Hall
67. Administrative Housing
68. Administrative Housing

MAP LEGEND

- | | | | |
|---|-----------------------|---|--------------------|
|  | State Highway |  | Campus Facility |
|  | City Street |  | Event Facility |
|  | Campus Street |  | Parking Area |
|  | Parking Area Thru-way |  | Conference Parking |





BOLOGNA PERFORMING ARTS CENTER
 Registration
 Opening Session
 Breakout Sessions
 President's Reception
 Plenary Session
 Special Presentation

H.L. NOWELL STUDENT UNION
 Student Luncheon

JAMES M. EWING HALL
 Lunch and Learn

E.R. JOBE HALL
 Closing Session
 Breakout Sessions

R.L. CAYLOR HALL
 Breakout Session

JAMES W. BROOM HALL
 H.S. Leadership Forum

GEORGENE CLARK DIVERSITY AWARD





2018 Winning the Race Conference Georgene Clark winner
Sofiya Dahman, left speaks with Georgene Clark.

GEORGENE CLARK DIVERSITY AWARD

At the 2015 Winning the Race Conference, the inaugural Delta State Diversity Champion Award was given to and named for Professor Georgene Clark. This award honors a Delta State student, faculty, staff, administrator, campus organization or department who demonstrate a commitment to diversity in the areas of teaching/scholarship, service and leadership.

GEORGENE CLARK DIVERSITY CHAMPION AWARD PAST WINNERS

Sofiya Dahman, 2018

Dr. Garry Jennings, 2017

Delta Center for Culture and Learning, 2016

Professor Georgene Clark, 2015

The Diversity Advisory Committee evaluates nominees based on the following seven principles:

UNIFY—we are one society

PERSONIFY—gender is only a word

IDENTIFY—you love who you love

TESTIFY—speak for your beliefs

DIGNIFY—we are all capable

DIVERSIFY—if we don't, who will?

EXEMPLIFY—see beyond black and white

ABOUT GEORGINA CLARK: Professor Clark's commitment to diversity and social justice goes back to before her years at Delta State. A native of the Mississippi Delta, she was involved with local civil rights activism as a teen and young adult. At Delta State, she was a professor of English known for her exemplary teaching and the way she reached all students. Professor Clark was instrumental in the formation and leadership of the Diversity Advisory Committee, which works to promote a more inclusive campus environment. In 2014, President William N. LaForge called upon Professor Clark to co-chair the first Winning the Race Conference. Although Professor Clark is now retired, she is still an active participant on the Winning the Race planning committee. She remains a dynamic presence on campus even though her grandson, an accomplished high school senior, keeps her very busy. We are grateful for her efforts, leadership and her passion for diversity at Delta State.

BIOS

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS:



JERAMEY ANDERSON Representative Anderson is a native of Moss Point, MS. He received his associate degree in criminal justice from Pearl River Community College and his bachelor's degree in homeland security from Tulane University. Representative Anderson represents District 110 in the Mississippi Legislature covering Moss Point and Pascagoula. When Rep. Anderson won his seat in November of 2013, he became the youngest African American ever elected to Legislature in United States History. Representative Anderson is also the youngest elected to the Mississippi Legislature. Representative Anderson currently serves on the Advisory Board for "Let America Vote" which is an organization dedicated to winning the public debate over voter suppression in the United States. He also serves as co-chairman for the Mississippi Future Caucus, a bipartisan caucus for lawmakers under 40. Most recently, he was honored during the opening session of the United Nations as one of the world's most influential people of African descent under 40. Representative Anderson ran for the Legislature to inspire his generation that they have the ability to do anything.



SHAUN KING is one of the most experienced, accomplished, skilled speakers in the nation. He has been the keynote speaker in every venue with every type of audience imaginable over 1,000 times since he was just 17 years old. He has been a full-time speaker his entire adult life. His ability to weave humor, compassion, meticulous research, and grave seriousness into one presentation is unmatched. In his new events, he integrates photos, charts, graphs, and videos to help make his most essential points stick. A master of his content, Shaun shocks event organizers by not using any notes or guides. Typically, when Shaun travels to speak, he also schedules private time to engage local leaders, students, and staff so that they can dig deeper behind the scenes.

PRESENTERS:



DALE BAILEY, Ph.D. is a native of the Mississippi Delta and has been a practicing school psychologist for over three decades. In addition to assisting numerous districts with developing and implanting intervention programs for behaviorally and emotionally at-risk youth, Dale and his colleagues have been actively involved with assisting with school staff with SW-PBIS implementation in Mississippi and Louisiana. Currently, Dale and his colleagues continue to collaborate with staff in numerous urban and rural school districts to implement effective SW-PBIS practices with a specific focus of reducing high rates of disparity for exclusionary discipline practices among minority students and students with disabilities.



TARA DUNN serves as Dean of Students at Northwest Mississippi Community College in Senatobia, MS. The Picayune native earned a BS in Interdisciplinary Studies from Delta State University, a MS in Higher Education Administration from Mississippi College, and a Ph.D. in Urban Higher Education from Jackson State University. Additional to her job responsibilities, Tara administers Project Gateway: From Community College to Career, a grant that helps women complete their degree after facing financial hardships. In her community, she has developed programs that focus on helping high school students complete the college admission and transition process. Tara believes that higher education serves as a catalyst for change, and individuals in the field should serve as an agent for moving their communities forward.



PAMELA D.C. JUNIOR Motivational speaker and historian, Pamela D.C. Junior is the newly appointed director of the Mississippi Civil Rights Museum located in Jackson, Mississippi. Formerly the manager of Smith Robertson Museum and Cultural Center, she has more than 17 years of experience as a museum professional. Under her leadership the museum was named 50 States 50 Spots by CNN in 2014. As the first director over the first state sponsored civil rights museum in the country, Ms. Junior realizes the importance in telling the absolute "Truth" when interpreting the history of the many persons who fought and died for change in the South. Pamela believes that museums should be used as an educational tool for students. In her words, "If we teach children about the history of African Americans—telling the story of the African's pride, their strengths and fortitudes, their struggles, their barriers, and their survival in a new world—you will secure a twinkle in the eyes of many that will last a lifetime." Pamela enjoys writing, reading and working with organizations of service.



JUSTIN LOFTON coordinates the Mississippi Youth Council (MYCouncil), an initiative with Advocates for Youth, to work collaboratively with passionate youth activists from across Mississippi to support and promote high-quality comprehensive sex education for all young people. He is also responsible for overseeing the coordination of Mississippi Youth Summit (MYSummit), a statewide youth advocacy meeting, where young people learn advocacy skills to fight for issues important to them. Justin is based in the Jackson, Mississippi, office.



VICKIE POWELL is senior vice president of foundations with the Mississippi Economic Council (MEC). Her work experience includes more than 15 years in human resources, business development and corporate affairs. In her current role, she has primary responsibility for the Public Education Forum of Mississippi (PEF) and M.B. Swayze Foundation - Student Achievement Recognition (STAR) program. The STAR program has saluted the academic achievements of the state's outstanding high school students and teachers from more than 300 public, private, and parochial schools for over 50 years. Additionally, she oversees Mississippi Scholars and Mississippi Scholars Tech Master programs across the state. Vickie has been involved with the Jackson Public Schools for several years serving as Adopt-A-School Coordinator and Site Council Representative. Currently, she serves on the board of directors for Jobs for Mississippi Graduates and Mississippi Association of Partners in Education, Inc. She is also a member of the MS ACT Council State Organization. She holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Mass Communications from Jackson State University, Jackson, Mississippi.



LACHADA ROBIE-PURNELL is a 23-year veteran educator who has served as a classroom teacher, counselor and school administrator. During her tenure as principal of Threadgill Elementary School, Robie-Purnell and her staff implemented the School-Wide Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (SW-PBIS) model and received a three-year Model School Status recognition from REACH Mississippi. Robie-Purnell currently serves as a School Improvement Specialist for the Greenwood-Leflore Consolidate School District where she continues to coordinate and supervise SW-PBIS implementation efforts across three school sites.



KEN SWINDOL, M.Ed. is a school psychologist and educational consultant providing professional consultation regarding school-wide Positive Behavior Intervention and Support (PBIS), Response to Intervention (RtI), and compliance with state and federal regulations regarding special education programming for students with disabilities. He is the founder and co-owner of Fluency Plus, LLC which specializes in providing educational and behavioral intervention services to children, families, and school personnel. He has served as the President of the Mississippi Association for Psychology in the Schools (MAPS), and he has worked as school psychologist in Mississippi as well as a professional consultant for the Mississippi Department of Education.



WILLIAM EMILE SWINDOL, M.Ed. is an education consultant and interventionist providing professional consultation regarding Response to Intervention (RtI) and compliance with state and federal regulations regarding special education programming for students with disabilities. Mr. Swindol has been involved in the development and implementation of individual behavioral and academic interventions in support of students in schools across Mississippi. He routinely advises RtI/MTSS and SW-PBIS Teams, supervises academic and behavioral intervention activities, provides training on educational best practices, and manages student data.



T.J. WALKER is from Prentiss, MS. He is currently the Director of the North MS Get2College Center in Southaven, MS. He holds degrees from Mississippi State University (B.S. in Kinesiology), Belhaven University (M.S. in Leadership), and currently pursuing a Doctor of Education (Ed.D) at the University of Mississippi.



DANNY THOMPSON is from Brandon, MS. He currently serves as Asst. Director of State Outreach in the Jackson Get2College Center. He holds a BS degree from Belhaven University (Computer Science). Danny has worked at Get2College for 8 years and enjoys helping students and parents navigate the entire college process.



LAEITTA WADE, Greenville, MS native, graduated from Delta State University with a B.S. degree in Music Industry Studies (primary concentration in Audio Engineering Technology) and a B.S. degree in Interdisciplinary Studies with concentrations in Media Arts, Songwriting, and Entrepreneurship. Laeitta has worked with both the DMI Mobile Music Lab and the Delta Arts Alliance in teaching youth in the Mississippi Delta the basics of creating original music and audio/video production. Laeitta also founded Eittabug Productions, a videography production company that serves to meet the vision and creativity needs of the Mississippi Delta. While working as a freelance videographer, Laeitta began working for the DMI Mobile Lab as the Project Assistant for the Healing With A Groove 2.0 program. In July 2017, Laeitta was hired as the Project Coordinator for HWG 2.0.



LANCE WHEELER Lance Wheelers erves as Curator of Exhibitions of the Mississippi Civil Rights Museum located in Jackson, Mississippi. Originally from Jersey City, New Jersey, he earned a BA in History with a focus on American slavery at Belmont Abbey College and MA in History with a concentration in Museum Studies at University of North Carolina at Greensboro. As a public historian, Wheeler realizes the importance in engaging patrons, not only through facts and dates, but also through personal stories and relativity to current events. Wheeler believes that museums should be seen as resource centers that allow the community to share their voices and gives individuals the historical connections they need to understand how the past has shaped the present and will shape the future.



NEDDIE WINTERS is a native Mississippian. He was born and raised in Tunica, Mississippi. He serves as president of Mission Mississippi, a movement in the Body of Christ to reconcile individuals across racial and denominational lines. Neddie is a former pastor with over twenty years of pastoral ministry. Neddie is very effective in preaching, teaching, and counseling in ways that have a positive impact on daily living. In addition, He has over 40 years of experience encompassing management, administration, executive leadership; mortgage financing, agricultural and nonagricultural lending as well as training and promotional development activities. He holds a B.S. Degree from Alcorn State University in General Agriculture and a master's degree in Public Financial Management from The American University, Washington D.C., an Honorary Doctorate of Humanities from the New Foundation Theological Seminary in Terry, Mississippi, along with further Biblical studies from Reformed Theological Seminary in Jackson, MS, and Stephen Olford Preaching Institute in Memphis, Tennessee.

SPEAKER BIOS



JACKIE HAWKINS recently retired from the Mississippi State Department of Health as Community Bureau Director of the Mississippi Delta Collaborative with 32 years of state service and over two decades of public health and community engagement work in the Mississippi Delta. Her work included developing and implementing policy systems and environmental changes in settings such as faith-based organizations, communities, barbershops, and local municipalities. Ms. Hawkins holds a master's degree in Rural Public Policy and Planning with emphasis on Rural Health. She has gained much notoriety and co-authored presentations and publications for her work in policy systems and environmental change strategies. She has a vast list of community experience including coordinating, facilitating community programs, projects, workshops and focus groups. Ms. Hawkins other experience includes social determinants of health, community engagement, utilizing evidence based public health strategies, faith-based interventions, public health infrastructure and improvement coalition development, mobilization and much more. Ms. Hawkins is a two-time recipient as a Rural Health Champion Award. Ms. Hawkins is Senior Consultant with SHARED Strategy Group, LLC and founder of Delta Community Solutions, LLC. She's married to Dewayne Hawkins and they have two children, Darrius and Kaithlyn. Ms. Hawkins passion lies in serving the community.



LEKESHA L. PERRY has extensive experience as an evaluator, policy analyst, strategic planner and technical assistance provider. As a Senior Consultant for SHARED Strategy Group, LLC and founder of Key Concepts, LLC, Ms. Perry works with nonprofit and community-based organizations across multiple disciplines to improve programmatic activities or design that would bring about equity and justice, while also dismantling systems of oppression that lead to adverse outcomes for people of color in communities, health, schools and the workforce. As Director, Diversity in Public Leadership Programs with the Leadership for Educational Equity (LEE), Ms. Perry designed and developed curriculum and training materials as well as facilitated with a diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) approach. She also led the public leadership summits' and elected leadership series' affinity groups that aimed to deepen the impact of LEE's commitment to equitable and inclusive education environment. Because of her experience and leadership, Ms. Perry was selected as a W.K. Kellogg Community Leadership Fellow, where she was identified as leading transformative social change in her community so that vulnerable children and their families can achieve optimal health and well-being, academic achievement and financial security.



EARL WATKINS Dr. Watkins has served as an education consultant for the Foundation of the Mid South, Ask for More Jackson, One Voice, and the W.K. Kellogg Foundation. As a school leadership consultant, he has worked with school districts, in addition to regional and state organizations such as the Delta Area Association for Improvement of Schools at Delta State University, the Mississippi Center for Education Innovation, and the Mississippi Department of Education. Dr. Watkins has served as Conservator for two school districts: Indianola School District, successfully paying off the district's debt to the state, consolidating the district with Sunflower County, and leaving the district with a fund balance over \$7 million & the Claiborne County School District, successfully returning the district to local control with a newly elected school board and appointed superintendent. Dr. Watkins previously served on the Ready by 21 National Leadership Council at the Forum for Youth Investment, and he is a past president of the Mississippi Alliance of Black School Educators, a chartered state affiliate of the National Alliance of Black School Educators. Dr. Watkins has also served the Mississippi State Conference NAACP as its state education committee chairman for 9 years. Dr. Watkins has degrees from Mississippi Valley State University and Jackson State University.

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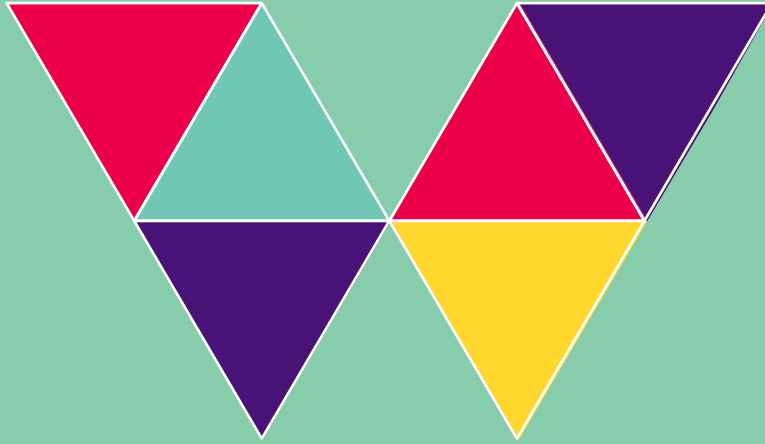
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