

50th Annual Meeting

Looking Back and Looking Forward: AMSA at 50

Alabama-Mississippi Sociological Association

February 21 - 22, 2019

www.a-msa.org



Past Presidents of A-MSA

2019	Arthur G. Cosby	Mississippi State University
2018	Brenda I. Gill	Alabama State University
2016-2017	Thomas Kersen	Jackson State University
2015	Anthony Adams	Alabama State University
2014	Alma Judith Calix	Hinds Community College
2013	Annice Yarber	Auburn University, Montgomery
2012	Lynne Cossman	Mississippi State University
2011	Geoff McIntyre	Troy University
2010	John J. Green	Delta State University
2009	David G. LoConto	Jacksonville State University
2008	Domenico "Mimmo" Parisi	Mississippi State University
2007	Kimberly P. Brackett	Auburn University, Montgomery
2006	Gary L. Long	University of Mississippi
2005	Dennis L. Peck	University of Alabama
2004	Duane Gill	Mississippi State University
2003	John E. Dunkelberger	Auburn University
2002	Albert B. Nylander III	Delta State University
2001	Larry Hall	Spring Hill College
2000	Lee Darlin	Mississippi College
1999	Donald W. Bogie	Auburn University, Montgomery
1998	Vaughn L. Grisham	University of Mississippi
1997	Jerri Bullard	University of North Alabama
1996	Mary A. Kuhn	Hinds Community College
1995	J. Selwyn Hollingsworth	University of Alabama
1994	Frank M. Howell	Mississippi State University
1993	Carol Chenault	Calhoun Community College
1992	Allen Scarboro	Millsaps College
1991	Danny E. Harrison	Auburn University, Montgomery
1990	John Saunders	Mississippi State University
1989	Yedehalli Mohan	Stillman College
1988	Columbus B. Hopper	University of Mississippi
1987	Billy T. Lindsey	University of North Alabama
1986	Walter Davis	Tougaloo College
1985	Rodney Friery	Jacksonville State University
1984	Mary E. Benjamin	Jackson State University
1983	Harriet D. Calhoun	Jefferson State Junior College
1982	Andrew E. Baird	Mississippi State University
1981	John E. Dunkelberger	Auburn University
1980	Vaughn L. Grisham	University of Mississippi
1978*	Roy S. Brigance	Samford University
1977	Joe Portera	Mississippi University for Women
1976	H. S. Abdul-Hadi	University of North Alabama
1975	Carlton R. Sollie	Mississippi State University
1974	John P. Reed	University of South Alabama
1973	Donald R. South	University of South Mississippi
1972	J. Garrick Hardy	Alabama State University
1971	N. Wilbur Carpenter	Mississippi College
1970	Harry E. Dickerson	Samford University
1969	Harold F. Kaufman	Mississippi State University

*In 1978 no fall meeting was held since the meeting was moved to January, 1979.

Past A-MSA Service and Achievement Award Recipients

2014	Steve Grice	Outstanding Achievement
2013	John Green	Distinguished Service
2013	Dennis L. Peck	Outstanding Achievement
2011	Albert B. Nylander III	Distinguished Service
2007	Vaughn L. Grisham	Outstanding Achievement
2006	Ming Tsui	Distinguished Service
2005	Donald Bogie	Distinguished Service
2002	Mary Kuhn	Distinguished Service
2000	Danny Harrison	Distinguished Service
2000	Billy Lindsey	Distinguished Service
1998	Roy Brigance	Distinguished Service
1997	John Saunders	Distinguished Service
1996	Columbus Hopper	Distinguished Service
1994	John Dunkelberger	Distinguished Service
1994	Arthur G. Cosby	Outstanding Achievement
1992	Selwyn Hollingsworth	Distinguished Service
1991	Donald South	Outstanding Achievement
1988	Abdul Hadi	Distinguished Service
1987	Harry Dickinson	Tribute
1986	Wilbur Carpenter	Tribute
1985	Harold Kaufman	Tribute
1984	Ernst Borinski	Memorial-Tribute

Brief Organizational History

A-MSA was established in 1969 when 12 sociologists from 11 institutions of higher learning from Mississippi and Alabama met at the University of Alabama to form a new bi-state organization. The first conference of this organization was held in the fall of 1969 at Mississippi State University; 100 sociologists attended, representing 22 schools from both states. The following year, A-MSA's second conference was held at Alabama State University where 30 schools were represented. Following this tradition, A-MSA's annual meetings continue to alternate between Mississippi and Alabama.

The primary objectives of A-MSA are to (1) promote collaborations among sociologists of both states and (2) to enhance sociological teaching, research and applications. As any organization evolves this society of professionals and students has also added an additional goal of stimulating the development of knowledge in a cooperative atmosphere where sociology along interdisciplinary fields is useful in the analysis and development of resolutions to social problems/phenomena.

2018-2019 A-MSA Executive Board

Interim President: Arthur G. Cosby, Mississippi State University

Past President: Brenda I. Gill, Alabama State University

President-Elect: Vacant

Secretary: LaCretia Williams, Alabama State University

Treasurer: Laura Jean Kerr, Mississippi State University

Archivist: Thomas M. Kersen, Jackson State University

Communications Director: Willette Bbye, University of Southern Alabama

Members-at-Large

Alabama

Jeneve Brooks, Troy University

Ramakrishnan Alagan, Alabama State University

Mississippi

Linda Stringfellow, Delta State University

Caitlin Brooking, University of Mississippi

A-MSA Schedule At-A-Glance

	Event	Time	Location
	Thursday, February 21		
0	Conference Registration	11:00 am – 5:00 pm	Hunter Henry Center Lobby
1	Business Meeting	11:30 am – 12:30 pm	Gardner Board Room
2	<p>Learning About Graduate School: Meet the Graduate Advisors, Chair: Wesley James</p> <p>History and Future of A-MSA & Interest Session, Chairs: Tom Kersen, Arthur G. Cosby, and Albert Nylander</p> <p>Graduate Paper Competition Session, Chair: Jeneve Brooks</p>	12:30 pm – 1:45 pm:	Correro Board Room <hr/> Shackouls Board Room <hr/> Brunson Seminar Room
3	<p>How Data Science is Transforming the Way We Do Research, Chair: Mike Taquino</p> <p>The Delta Directions Consortium and Delta Scholars Program: Collaboration to Engage Undergraduates in Policy and Social Justice Research, Kecia R. Johnson</p>	2:00 pm – 3:15 pm:	Brunson Seminar Room <hr/> Shackouls Board Room
4	<p>Workshop: Innovative Data Sources for Sociological Research: A Student-oriented Introduction to using Google Ngram, Google Data, Google Street View, and Twitter Data, Chair: Arthur G. Cosby</p> <p>Global Migration Patterns and Trends: Understanding the Causes and Consequences, Chair: Ram Alagan</p>	3:30 pm – 4:45 pm	Brunson Seminar Room <hr/> Shackouls Board Room
5	Undergraduate Paper Competition Session, Chair: Jeneve Brooks	5:00 pm – 6:30 pm	Brunson Seminar Room
6	Poster and Student Poster Competition Session, Chair: Linda Stringfellow	6:15 pm – 7:30 pm	Hunter Henry Center Lobby
6	<p>Reception <i>Sponsored by:</i> The Sociology Department & the Social Science Research Center at Mississippi State University</p>	6:30 pm – 8:00 pm	Hunter Henry Center Lobby

A-MSA Schedule At-A-Glance

	Event	Time	Location
	Friday, February 22		
0	Conference Registration	8:00 am – 12:00 pm	Hunter Henry Center Lobby
1	Community Engagement for the 2020 Census: The Case of the YOU Count Initiative, Chair: John J. Green Children, Youth, and Inequality, Chair: Margaret A. Hagerman Grad Student Information Session: Grad Students Speak from Experience, Chair: Anna Church	8:00 am – 9:15 am	Brunson Seminar Room <hr/> Correro Board Room <hr/> Shackhoul's Board Room
2	Maternal and Child Health Care in Alabama-Mississippi and Beyond, Chair: Heather Hanna Southern Race and Culture Movements and Student Engagement in Service Learning and Research, Chair: Jeneve Brooks	9:30 am – 10:45 am	Brunson Seminar Room <hr/> Correro Board Room
3	Sociology Training: An Ideal Preparation for Multiple Career Paths, Chair: David Buys Developing the Sociological Imagination while Assessing Student Learning, Chair: Lindsey Peterson	11:00 am – 12:15 pm	Brunson Seminar Room <hr/> Correro Board Room
4	Luncheon and Awards Ceremony	12:30 pm – 1:45 pm	Ballroom
5	Environmental, Economic, and Legal Social Change, Chair: Makeela Wells Southern Accents in Queer Conversations: Place, Inclusion, and New Directions in LGBTQ Studies, Chair: Izzy Pellegrine	2:00 pm to 3:15 pm	Brunson Seminar Room <hr/> Correro Board Room
6	Workshop: Community Based Research: Models, Lessons Learned, and Prospects for the Future, Chair: John J. Green Issues in School Safety, Chair: David May	3:30 to 4:45 pm	Brunson Seminar Room <hr/> Correro Board Room

Looking Back and Looking Forward: A-MSA at 50

Thursday, February 21st

11:30-12:30 pm

**1. A-MSA Business Lunch Meeting
Gardner Board Room**

Session Organizer: Arthur G. Cosby, Mississippi State University

12:30-1:45 pm

**2. Learning About Graduate School: Meet the Graduate Advisors
Correro Board Room**

Session Organizer: Wesley James, The University of Memphis

Kimberly Kelly, Mississippi State University

Chris Purser, University of North Alabama

John Green, University of Mississippi

**3. History and Future of A-MSA & Interest Session
Shackouls Board Room**

Session Organizers: Thomas Kersen, Jackson State University, Arthur G. Cosby, Mississippi State University, & Albert Nylander, The University of Mississippi

**4. Graduate Paper Competition Session
Brunson Seminar Room**

Session Organizer: Jeneve Brooks, Troy University-Dothan Campus

Community Resilience: A Meta-Study of International Development Rhetoric in Emerging Economies
Rachel Haggard, Graduate Student, University of Mississippi

Freedom vs. Trust: How Do Citizens under Authoritarian Regimes Conceptualize Freedom
Heather-Ann Layth, Graduate Student, Mississippi State University

'Everybody but Us': Constructing Evangelical Identities by Defining the Skeptic
Pace Ward, Graduate Student, University of Mississippi

2:00-3:15 pm

**5. How Data Science is Transforming the Way We Do Research
Brunson Seminar Room**

Session Organizer: Mike Taquino, Mississippi State University

Jonathan Barlow, Mississippi State University,

Jonathan Woody, Mississippi State University

Reuben Burch, Mississippi State University

**6. The Delta Directions Consortium and Delta Scholars Program: Collaboration to Engage Undergraduates in Policy and Social Justice
Shackouls Board Room**

Session Organizer: Kecia R. Johnson, Mississippi State University

John J. Green, University of Mississippi

Lynn Woo, University of Mississippi

3:30-4:45 pm

**7. Innovative Data Sources for Sociological Research: A Student-oriented Introduction to using Google Ngram, Google Data, Google Street View, and Twitter Data
Brunson Seminar Room**

Session Organizer: Arthur G. Cosby, Mississippi State University

Karissa Bergene, Mississippi State University

Megan Stubbs-Richardson, Mississippi State University

**8. Global Migration Patterns and Trends: Understanding the Causes and Consequences
Shackouls Board Room**

Session Organizer: Ram Alagan, Alabama State University

Current Issues and Challenges to International Migrants

Brenda I. Gill, Alabama State University

Mapping Global Migration from Sri Lanka. Exploring the Past, Present, and Future Challenges
Ram Alagan, Alabama State University & Seela Aladuwaka, Alabama State University

Jim Crow and the Refugees it Created: A Look at the Factors that Contributed to the Migration of Negroes from the South to the North
Robert O. White, Alabama State University

5:00-6:30 pm

9. Undergraduate Paper Competition Session Brunson Seminar Room

Session Organizer: Jeneve Brooks, Troy University-Dothan Campus

A PAST NEVER PAST: A Study of Slavery and Reparation at the University of Mississippi
Allen Coon, Undergraduate Student, University of Mississippi

Declining American Support for Capitalism – But Why? An Elaboration on Newland's Free Market Mentality Index in the United States
Mariah K. Warner, Undergraduate Student, Mississippi State University

Disease and Authority: The Anti-Vaccine Movement in Mississippi
Daniel R. Bamrick, Jr., Undergraduate Student, Hinds Community College

American Attitudes Toward Gun Control
Lauren Ferguson, Millsaps College

To Introduce New Concepts for Self-making Decisions on Sexualities: For Latina Girls and Their Parents
Jihyun Shin, Mississippi State University

U.S. Public Attitudes Toward Abortion
Shanbai Bonnie Yang, Millsaps College

Social Factors and Views Toward Capital Punishment in America
Ke' Ancelar Birge, Undergraduate Student, Millsaps College

6:15-7:30 pm

10. Poster and Student Poster Competition Session Upstairs Lobby

Session Organizer: Linda Stringfellow, Delta State University

Promoting Green Spaces and their Ecosystem Services as a Means to Improving Public Health in Mississippi

Marlon Flowers & Mark A. Dugo, Mississippi Valley State University

Student-Athletes, Stress, and Substance Use
Darnisha Mitchell, Bat'se Smart, Jamica Taylor, Zhanae Whitney, Louisiana Tech University

Identifiable Impact: Consequences of Identity-Based Bullying in High School
Cory Shumate, Mississippi State University

Feeling Alienated: Consequences of Bullying
Baleigh Pinder & Katie Shindala Mississippi State University

Culture of Honor: Not just for Boys Anymore
Ragan Mims, Mississippi State University

Dear Diary: A Daily Diary Study of Experiences with Bullying in High School
Mary Grace Payne, Mississippi State University

Does religion and religiosity have an effect on how society views homosexuals and homosexuality?
Madeline Golden, Louisiana Tech University

6:30-8:00 pm

11. Reception Lobby

Session Organizer: Alabama-Mississippi Sociological Association & Mississippi State University

Please share your memories, pictures, and snapshots of your favorite sessions with us via social media outlets, using the hashtag

#A-MSA50

Looking Back and Looking Forward: A-MSA at 50

Friday, February 22rd

8:00-9:15 am

**12. Community Engagement for the 2020 Census:
The Case of the YOU Count Initiative
Brunson Seminar Room**

Session Organizer: John J. Green, The University of Mississippi

Heather Hanna, Mississippi State University
Anne Buffington, Mississippi State University
Lynn Woo, University of Mississippi

**13. Children, Youth, and Inequality
Correro Board Room**

Session Organizer: Margaret A. Hagerman,
Mississippi State University

State Constructions of Sexual Citizenship, Youth, and Inequality

Izzy Pellegrine, Ph.D. student in Sociology,
Mississippi State University

United Methodists' Racial Attitudes and Perceptions of Black Youth's Experiences of Discrimination

Brittany Radford, M.S. student in Human Development and Family Sciences, Ph.D. student in Sociology, Mississippi State University

Growing Up in a Mississippi Segregationist Academy: Kids' Experiences and Perspectives

Courtney Heath Windhorn, M.S. student in Sociology, Mississippi State University

The Impact of Globalization on Youth and Educational Inequality

Emory Endicott, Undergraduate student, Mississippi State University

Colorblind Ideology in Progressive Political Organizing: Educational Inequality and Youth in Mississippi

Emily Tingle, Undergraduate student, Mississippi State University

**14. Grad Student Information Session: Grad Students Speak from Experience
Shackhous Board Room**

Session Organizer: Anna Church, The University of Memphis

Michael Topping, University of Wisconsin Stevens Point

Adriene Davis, Mississippi State University
Andrew Tatch, Mississippi State University

9:30-10:45 am

**15. Maternal and Child Health Care in Alabama-Mississippi and Beyond
Brunson Seminar Room**

Session Organizer: Heather Hanna, Mississippi State University

The Incidence of Low Birth Weight among Non-Hispanic Black Births in a Home Visiting Program in the Mississippi Delta

Anna Church, The University of Memphis
Chris King, The University of Memphis
Wesley L. James, The University of Memphis

Interventions that Promote Breastfeeding and Human Milk Consumption for Preterm and Low Birth Weight Babies: A Meta-Study of Current Literature

Elizabeth Young Sweeney, Rachel A. Haggard, and John J. Green, Center for Population Studies, University of Mississippi

Right From the Start!: Serving the Needs of Mothers and Low Birthweight Babies in the Mississippi Delta

Sushmitha Inguva, John J. Green, and David Allen III, University of Mississippi
Sannie Snell, Women and Children Health Initiatives
Mobolaji Famuyide, University of Mississippi Medical Center

The Utilization of Maternal Healthcare Service in South Asia: Does Mass Media have any Impacts?

Kaniz Fatema, University of Memphis

Breaking the Link Between Socioeconomic Vulnerability and Preterm Birth: Conditonal Analysis of Presumptive Eligibility Policy

Rachel Haggard, John J. Green, Katie Kerstetter, & Wengora Thompson, University of Mississippi

16. Southern Race and Culture Movements and Student Engagement in Service Learning and Research

Correro Board Room

Session Organizer: Jeneve Brooks, Troy University-Dothan Campus

Examining the Musical Contributions of Wiregrass Blues Musicians

Jeneve Brooks, Associate Professor of Sociology at Troy University-Dothan Campus

Teaching "Community" in Community Engagement and Service Learning Courses

Kim Steil, Sociology Instructor, Hinds Community College

Engaging Student Athletes in Sociological Research
Jamie Boydston, Louisiana Tech University

Black and Catholic in Alabama: A Case Study of Theological Praxis toward Justice

Brenda G. Harris, Independent Scholar, Applied Sociology

11:00 am - 12:15 pm

17. Sociology Training: An Ideal Preparation for Multiple Career Paths

Brunson Seminar Room

Session Organizer: David Buys, State Health Specialist & Assistant Professor, Mississippi State University

Vicki Winstead, Research Associate, School of Nursing, University of Alabama at Birmingham

Eric Salvador, FBI Agent

18. Developing the Sociological Imagination while Assessing Student Learning

Correro Board Room

Session Organizer: Lindsey Peterson, Mississippi State University

Uncovering Inequality with Kids Count Data
Lindsey Peterson, Mississippi State University

Do UFO's exist?: Using TV shows about Alien and UFO sightings to evaluate research methodology
Sarah Donley, Jacksonville State University

Power and Privilege: An In-Class Application and Reflection Activity

Brianna Turgeon, Jacksonville State University

Teaching to the Other Tests: Physical Agility & Pistol Shooting in Criminal Justice Programs

Jackie Chavez, Troy University

12:30 pm - 1:45 pm

**19. Luncheon and Awards Ceremony
Ballroom**

2:00 pm – 3:15 pm

20. Southern Accents in Queer Conversations: Place, Inclusion, and New Directions in LGBTQ Studies

Brunson Seminar Room

Session Organizer: Izzy Pellegrine, Mississippi State University

Debutantes, Mardi Gras, and Mock Coronations: LGBTQ Space and Cultural Structures of the Urban South

Amy L. Stone, Trinity University

The Invisible Histories Project

Joshua Burford, University of North Carolina Charlotte
We Outchea: Organizational Support of Black, Brown, and Indigenous Transgender and Queer Women in the South

Qiana Cutts, Mississippi State University

"We deserve better." Findings from a statewide survey of LGBTQ Mississippian

Amanda Gochanour, Melanie Walsh, & Izzy Pellegrine, Mississippi State University

21. Environmental, Economic, and Legal Social Change

Correro Board Room

Session Organizer: Makeela Wells, Tennessee Technological University

Exploring a Socio-Structural Approach to Examine Community Resilience: Two Case Studies from Rural Uruguay

Diego Thompson, Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, Mississippi State University
Silvina Lopez Barrera, Assistant Professor, School of Architecture, Mississippi State University

Examining Differential Sentencing Outcomes for Federal Cocaine and Methamphetamine Offenses
Makeela Wells, Tennessee Technological University

Environmental Justice and Port Expansion in the Post-Panamax Era: The Ports of Gulfport, Mississippi and Mobile, Alabama

Kevin Lynn & Melanie White, Troy University

Free Trade Agreements and Impact on Health: An Empirical Study to Solve the Long Debated Issue
Samia Tasmim, MA student, Department of Sociology, The University of Memphis
Junmin Wang, Associate Professor, Department of Sociology, The University of Memphis

Fractured Families: How Child Support Policies in the United States Fracture African American Families
Amanda Rausch, Troy University

3:30-4:45 pm

22. Workshop: Community Based Research: Models, Lessons Learned, and Prospects for the Future

Brunson Seminar Room

Session Organizer: John J. Green

Anne Cafer, University of Mississippi Center for Population Studies
Lynn Woo, University of Mississippi Center for Population Studies
John J. Green, University of Mississippi Center for Population Studies

23. Issues in School Safety

Correro Board Room

Session Organizer: Dr. David May, Mississippi State University

Bullying and its Effects on the Victims

Janiece Austin, East Mississippi Community College

Who Do Children Like to Be Interviewed By? Robots or Humans

Kristen Stives, Auburn University at Montgomery
David C. May, Mississippi State University
Malerie Guess, Mississippi State University
Cindy Bethel, Mississippi State University
Deborah Eakin, Mississippi State University
Melinda Pilkinton, Mississippi State University

The Impact of a Caring Adult on Fear and Avoidance Behaviors at School

David C. May, Mississippi State University
Makeela Wells, Tennessee Technological University
Sierra Nelson, Mississippi State University
Maggie Cresswell, Mississippi State University
Megan Stubbs-Richardson, Mississippi State University

Examining Racial Differences in Cyberbullying among Youth

Yuanjiaozi Xue, Mississippi State University
Sierra Nelson, Mississippi State University
David C. May, Mississippi State University
H. Colleen Sinclair, Mississippi State University
Megan Stubbs-Richardson, Mississippi State University

We hope you enjoyed celebrating A-MSA'S 50 years with us! Please share your memories, pictures, and snapshots of your favorite sessions with us via social media outlets, using the hashtag

#A-MSA50

See you next year! ☺