



**SOPA NEWSLETTER  
FALL 2023**

**BARBARA JORDAN-MICKEY LELAND  
SCHOOL OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS**

We had an unexpected series of events throughout 2023, but we made the best of it, nonetheless. Thank you for all your hard work. Cheers to an even better 2024!

**OUR MISSION:**

The mission of the school of Public Affairs is to serve as an urban focused community of learning dedicated to educating professionals who will plan and administer environmentally healthy and sustainable communities at the local, state, national and international levels of society.

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### **The Late Congressman Mickey Leland’s Historical Marker Unveiled**

The Barbara Jordan-Mickey Leland School of Public Affairs (BJMLSOPA) organized and hosted the unveiling of a historical marker in honor of the late Congressman Mickey Leland on the campus of Texas Southern University (TSU). The marker was approved and prepared by the Texas Historical Commission. It includes highlights of the late Congressman Leland’s distinguished career as a public servant spanning his major contributions to the improvement of the human condition in the United States and around the world.

The event was attended by Mrs. Alison Leland, Congressman Leland's widow, and members of the Leland family, an array of government officials from the federal, state, and municipal levels, including Rep. Sheila Jackson Lee, Dr. Mary Sias, the Interim President of TSU, Provost Carl Goodman, and other members of the TSU leadership, Acting Dean Andrew I.E. Ewoh and other leaders of BJMLSOPA, and civic and religious leaders from the Greater Houston Area. The program was facilitated by Dr. Glenda Higgins, and it included speeches about the life of the late Congressman Leland by Mrs. Leland, Interim President Sias, as well as several public officials, and civic and religious leaders.

### **BJML SOPA HOLDS RECEPTION FOR FALLS 2023 GRADUATES**

The Office of Student Support Services and Assessment hosted the Fall 2023 Graduation Reception on December 15, 2023. The Honorable Jarvis Johnson, Texas House Member for District 139 was the guest speaker for the event. During the event, acknowledgments were given to students inducted into the Phi Nu Chapter of Pi Sigma Alpha - The National Political Science Honor Society, as well as BJML SOPA's honors graduates and graduating seniors with the highest GPA for Summer 2023 and Fall 2023. Students were presented with graduation mementos through the previous HEERF funding and donations from the eMPA program. The mementos are given as an incentive to have the soon-to-be alumni stay connected to the university by joining an alumni chapter or giving back.

Congratulations to the following graduates:

Magna Cum Laude Honors (3.5-3.74 GPA)

- ❖ Jazmine Gendorf (Summer 2023 & Summer Salutatorian)
- ❖ James Ray

- ❖ Taliyah Williams-Moore
- Cum Laude Honors (3.25-.349 GPA)
  - ❖ Christopher Brown
  - ❖ Yessica Dias
  - ❖ Carey Laing
  - ❖ Kelsey Lattin
  - ❖ Corey Scott
- BJML SOPA Highest Undergraduate GPA
  - ❖ Taliyah Williams-Moore

In total, 57 degrees were conferred for Fall 2023 for BJML SOPA. The breakdown is below:

**I. Doctor of Philosophy:**

Administration of Justice	1
Urban Planning and Environmental Policy	2

**Total: 3**

**II. Masters:**

Executive Master of the Administration of Justice	2
Master in the Administration of Justice	6
Executive Master of Public Administration	11
Master of Urban Planning and Environmental Policy	3

**Total: 23**

**III. Bachelors:**

Administration of Justice	25
Emergency Management & Homeland Security	0
Public Affairs	1
Political Science	6

**Total: 32**

**Total number of graduates: 57**

**“EXCELLENCE IN ACHEIVEMNET AWARD” (The Highest GPA in the Graduating**

**Class for Spring 2023, BJ-ML School of Public Affairs):**

Ms. Jhailyn Bryant (Administration of Justice Major)

**Student Leadership Awards:**

Ms. Jhailyn Bryant (Undergraduate, Administration of Justice Major)

Ms. Jaina Johnson (Undergraduate, Administration of Justice Major)

Ms. Lynda Olalede (Undergraduate, Administration of Justice Major)

Ms. Janiya Chapman (Undergraduate Political Science Major)

Ms. Tramoni Garrett (Graduate Student, Administration of Justice)

## **SOPA FACULTY ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

### **JOURNAL ARTICLES**

Henry, T. K. S., & Henderson, H. (2023). Pathways to Offense Charging: Examining Defence decision-making during case processing. *Criminal Justice and Behaviour*, 50(9), 1299-1320. <https://doi.org/10.1177/00938548231170797>

Smith, S., Askew, R. L., Ferguson, C. J., Henderson, H., Montgomery, D., & Olumuyiwa, S. (2023). A Descriptive Analysis of Police Shootings in Houston. *Journal of Police and Criminal Psychology*, 1-12.

Rembert, D. A., Joseph, J. J., Threadcraft-Walker, W., Threadcraft, M., Brown, D., Soyele, O. E., & Henderson, H. (2023). Criminal Liability for Correctional Officer Excessive use of Force. *Crime, Law and Social Change*, 79(2), 105-128.

Ewoh, Andrew. (2023). From Gentrification, Systematic Racism, Policy Entrepreneurs to the Myth of Expertise in Academia and Community Health Improvement. Editor's Introduction. *Journal of Public Management & Social Policy*, 30(1&2).

Ewoh, Andrew I.E. (2023). Industrial Establishments: Workplace Satisfaction, Women's Participation in Politics and Land Use. Editor's Introduction. *African Social Science Review*, 12(1).

Kieh, G.K. (2023). The Movement for Justice in Africa and State Transformation in Liberia. *Bandung: The Journal of the Global South*, 10(3), 2023, 303-327.

**OPEN ACCESS JOURNAL & PROFESSIONAL MAGAZINE ARTICLES PUBLISHED**

Nayer, G., Adams, M., & Feliciano, L.P. (2023). The History of Voting Rights and Racial Discrimination in Texas: 1865-1965. *American Journal of Humanities and Social Sciences Research*, 07(09), 102-108

Nayer, G., Adams, M., & Feliciano, L.P. (2023). The Struggle for Equal Citizenship and Voting Rights in Texas: One Nonprofit's Solution. *ISRG Journal of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences*, 1(V), 211-217.

**BOOK CHAPTER PUBLISHED**

Kieh, G. K. (2023). The Movement for Justice in Africa and Democratization in Liberia in *Revolutionary Movements in Sub-Saharan Africa: The Untold Story*. Edited by Bianchini, P., Sylla, N. & Zeilig, L. London: Pluto Press, 2023, 121-140.

**WORKING PAPERS & MONOGRAPHS**

Chun, B., Hur, M., Thapa, J. (2023). Promoting Equity in Urban Heat: A Greening Approach for HOLC's Legacy in Houston, Texas. *Journal of Local Environment*. (Under Review)

Chun, B., Nguyen, A., Mirzaaghazadeh, E., & Pan, Q. (2023). Spatial Analysis of Urban Bike-Sharing Ridership for Sustainable Transportation in Houston, Texas. *Journal of Transportation Research Part D*. (Under Review)

**WORKSHOPS, SEMINARS & SYMPOSIA**

Howard Henderson and Jasmine Drake (2023). Vice President for Research and Innovation Faculty Research Spotlight Seminar; The Road Less Traveled: Challenging the Status Quo by Transforming Forensic Science to Serve the Cause of Justice; December 8, 2023.

Kieh, G.K. (2023). *Post-Conflict Democratization in Liberia: A Political Economy*. Paper delivered at the Symposium on "The State of Democracy in the World: Progress and Challenges." Sponsored by the Paul Coverdale Endowed Fellowship, Georgia College and State University, Milledgeville, Georgia, November 9-11, 2023.

Adams, Michael. (2023). Presented on fundraising for "Public Affairs Programs" at the Volcker Alliance- NextGen Retreat at the University of Nebraska-Omaha, September 6-8.

## PAPERS PRESENTED AT PROFESSIONAL CONFERENCES

- Ewoh, Andrew. (2023). Role of Nongovernmental Organization in Local Economic Development and Poverty. Reduction in Sub-Saharan Africa. Paper presented at 26<sup>th</sup> Great Plains Political Science Association at Wichita State University, Wichita, Kansas, October 27.
- Chun, B, & Hur, M. (2023). Spatial Impact of Greening Strategy on Thermal Inequity by the Legacy of the Homeowner's Loan Corporation (HOLC) in Houston, Texas. American Association of Geographers (AAG), Denver, CO.
- Gheshlaghi, E., Nguyen, A., & Chun, B. (2023). Spatial Patterns of Bike Ridership on Bike-Sharing Program in Houston, Texas. American Association of Geographers (AAG), Denver, CO. (Received an Award for the Best Graduate Student Poster)
- Gheshlaghi, E., Nguyen, A., & Chun, B. (2023). Spatial Patterns of Bike Ridership on Bike-Sharing Program in Houston, Texas. Urban Affair Conference, Nashville, TN.
- Department of Administration of Justice American Society of Criminology Presentations (ASC Conference; November 15-18<sup>th</sup>, 2023; Philadelphia, Pennsylvania):
- Serita Whiting, Texas Southern University, The Ph.D. Experience at Historically Black Colleges and Universities in the South.
- Jovita Esechie, Texas Southern University, Vigilantism and Vigilante Justice in the Modern Era? The Case of Africa.
- Gloria Okere, Texas Southern University, LaSheria Nance-Bush, Texas Southern University Black Wallstreet-Bridging the Past with the Future.
- Howard Henderson, Texas Southern University, Roundtable: Strength in Numbers: University-Based Criminal Justice Research Centers.
- Tracey Heywood, Texas Southern University, Elizabeth Barnes, Texas Southern University, Blayne Williams, Texas Southern University, Roundtable: Cyberterrorism and Its Future Impact as a Weapon of Mass Disruption.
- Robert Mupier, Texas Southern University, Roundtable: Cyberterrorism and Its Future Impact as a Weapon of Mass Disruption.
- Ihekwoaba Onwudiwe, Texas Southern University, Roundtable: Reimagining the Future of Protection: A Review of Sexuality, Race, and Gender on Victimization and Safety.
- Tracey Heywood, Texas Southern University, Elizabeth Barnes, Texas Southern University, Neal Howard, Texas Southern University, Roundtable: Reimagining the Future of Protection: A Review of Sexuality, Race, and Gender on Victimization and Safety.
- Anita Kalunta-Crumpton, Texas Southern University, Criminal and Civil Legal Responses to Domestic Violence.
- Dayo Famakin-Johnson, Texas Southern University, Theory Meets Practice: The Intersection of Green Criminology and Environmental Justice.
- Ihekwoaba Onwudiwe, Texas Southern University  
Emmanuel Ben-Edet, Clark Atlanta University  
Cajetan Chidi Ihe, University of Pittsburgh, Bradford, PA  
Edidiong Mendie, California State University, Sacramento.

- Pascal Obinna Ezeihuoma, University of Pittsburgh, Bradford, PA.  
Dayo Famakin-Johnson, Texas Southern University  
Terrorism by dissidents: The reemergence of violent ideologies as an existential extremist threat in America.
- Gloria Okere, Texas Southern University, LaSheria Nance-Bush, Texas Southern University  
Roundtable: Environmental Justice Challenges.
- Ojeifoh Okosun, Texas Southern University, The Intersection of Ponzi Schemes and Digital Technologies.
- Olonilua, O. (2023). The Increasing role of Citizen Engagement/Education in Climate Change, Invited Speaker, Paper presented at the Urban Climate Solutions Workshop, Texas A&M University, College Station, October 9-10, 2023.

## PANELS SERVED ON AT PROFESSIONAL CONFERENCES

- Michael O. Adams., Panelist on *Making the Classroom Safe Again: Approaches to Crediting Safe and Welcoming Learning Environments*, NASPAA Annual Conference in Pittsburgh, PA, October 11-13, 2023.
- Michael O. Adams and Carroll Robinson, Panelist on *The Critical Role of BIPOC School Leaders in Shaping Meaningful Experimental Learning Opportunities for Students (and Communities)*, NASPAA Annual Conference in Pittsburgh, PA, October 11-13, 2023.
- Carroll Robinson, Panelist on *Public Opinion Polling as Public Service and Public Education*, NASPAA Annual Conference in Pittsburgh, PA, October 11-13, 2023.

## COLLABORATIONS

- Andrew Ewoh continues to serve as the Editor-in-Chief of the *Journal of Public Management & Social Policy and African Social Science Review*, as well as the Editor of the *Ralph Bunche Journal of Public Affairs*.
- Robert L. Williams serves as a Guest Editor of the *Ralph Bunche Journal of Public Affairs*.
- George Kieh is working with Kathi Barrett, Garvin Lee, and Neema Noori of the University of West Georgia on a co-authored book on *Torture: An Interdisciplinary Perspective*.
- Oluponmile Olonilua serves on Planning Information Exchange Webinar series for the American Planning Association.
- Michael Adams (2023). Serves on University of Houston's Education Research Institute and Rice University's Houston Education Research Consortium (HERC).
- Michael Adams continues to collaborate with the UH-Hobby School of Public Affairs- Texas Trends Survey.

Michael Adams collaborated with Houston Chronicle, and Channel 13 to host the Houston 2023 Mayoral Debate at TSU on October 30, 2023.

Michael Adams Partnered with the Legal Defense Fund to provide Voter Education.

Michael Adams collaborated with the Andrew Goodman Foundation for Student Voter Participation.

Michael Adams Renewed an MOU with George Washington University for DC Residency for Executive Master of Public Administration students.

George Kieh is working with Kathleen Barrett, Gavin Lee, and Neema Noori on co-authored book on *Torture: An Interdisciplinary Approach*.

## **GRANTS**

Michael Adams (with Texas Southern University Foundation), project funded by the Houston Endowment Foundation to support electoral participation among students and staff, coordination of university activities with community groups, and an independent evaluation of the project for \$990,000.00 from October 2023-December 2026.

Jeffrey Lowe, Historical Black College and University Center of Excellence, research grant funded by U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Department for \$3,000,000.00 from April 2023-April 2026.

Jeffrey Lowe, Historical Black College and University Center of Excellence, research grant funded by U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Department for \$1,000,000.00 from September 21-September 24.

Howard Henderson, Center for Justice Research, Baylor College of Medicine/National Institutes of Health for \$131,121.00 from May 2023 - February 2024.

Robert Bullard, Bullard Center for Environmental & Climate Justice, Deep South Center for Environmental Justice, Inc./National Institutes of Health/National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences for \$270,000.00 from June 2023 - May 2024.

Robert Bullard, Bullard Center for Environmental & Climate Justice for \$497,216.00 from September 2023 - September 2026.

Jeffery Lowe, Historical Black College and University Center of Excellence, Research grant funded by U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development for \$3,000,000.00 from April 2023 - April 2026.

Laura Solitare, An Action Plan for Cultural resource Climate Adaption Research and Funding. Funded through the University of New Mexico/University of Oklahoma by Department of the Interior for \$16.818.00 from September 1, 2023 - August 31, 2024.

## FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

For the 2022-2023 academic year, University data reported at the January 2024 State of the University Address by TSU Interim President, Dr. Mary Sias, reveals that the Barbara Jordan – Mickey Leland School of Public Affairs boasts the highest four-year graduation rate amongst all colleges and schools at the University. *Kudos to our Office of Student Support Services and Assessment (OSSSA) Team for this great accomplishment!*

Ms. Zenobia Alex Retirement Celebration on August 2, 2023



The Unveiling of George Mickey Leland Historical Marker Ceremony, August 18, 2023













TEXAS SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY  
Barbara Jordan - Mickey Leland  
School of Public Affairs



The BARBARA JORDAN-MICKEY LELAND SCHOOL OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS  
and the HARRIS COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSION present

The UNVEILING and DEDICATION of an  
OFFICIAL TEXAS HISTORICAL MARKER for  
The LATE CONGRESSMAN

GEORGE  
THOMAS

Mickey  
Leland III

*Friday*  
AUGUST 18, 2023  
NOON



TEXAS SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY  
Barbara Jordan - Mickey Leland School of Public Affairs  
McCoy Auditorium (Room 114)  
3401 Cleburne | Houston, TX 77004













SOPA FALL 2023 ORIENTATION on AUGUST 24, 2023



Dr. David Baker's Retirement Ceremony on August 24, 2023

The poster features a central photograph of Dr. David Baker, a man in a dark suit and tie, smiling. The background is a gradient of light blue and green. At the top, the TSU logo is displayed in a maroon box, with the text 'TEXAS SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY' and 'Barbara Jordan - Mickey Leland School of Public Affairs Administration of Justice Department' below it. The main title 'FAREWELL CELEBRATION' is written in large, white, sans-serif capital letters across the top. On the left and right sides, vertical text reads 'JOIN US IN CELEBRATING THE' and 'RETIREMENT OF DR. DAVID BAKER' respectively. At the bottom, a white rounded rectangle contains the event details: 'AUGUST 24, 2023', '5:30PM - 7:30PM', and 'PAB 114 AUDITORIUM'.

**TSU**  
TEXAS SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY  
Barbara Jordan - Mickey Leland  
School of Public Affairs  
Administration of Justice Department

# FAREWELL CELEBRATION

JOIN US IN CELEBRATING THE



RETIREMENT OF DR. DAVID BAKER

AUGUST 24, 2023  
5:30PM - 7:30PM  
PAB 114 AUDITORIUM



**DR. ANDREW EWOH AND MRS. ALISON LELAND**







**GUEST SPEAKER**

**THE HONORABLE  
JARVIS JOHNSON  
TEXAS HOUSE MEMBER, DISTRICT 139**



TEXAS SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY

Barbara Jordan - Mickey Leland  
School of Public Affairs

*Graduation*  
RECEPTION  
12.15.23