

Awards & Recognitions

Dr. Cindy Bethel

- Elected to the Computing Research Association (CRA) Board of Directors. Read more about the position at cra.org/2020-board-election-results-and-new-appointed-board-members/.
- Named an Assistant Vice President Intern with the Mississippi State University Office of Research and Economic Development.
- Named as one of the “World’s 50 Most Renowned Women in Robotics” by Analytics Insight magazine. The recognition comes in the magazine’s June 2020 edition. Read more about Dr. Bethel by following this link, www.bagley.msstate.edu/news/bethel-named-among-worldwide-leaders-in-robotics/.

Dr. Art Cosby

- Co-author of the American Public Health Association 2019 paper of the year. Growth and Persistence of Place-based Mortality in the United States: The Rural Mortality Penalty is authored by Dr. Art Cosby, SSRC director; Dr. M. Maya McDoom-Echebiri, a former post-doctorate research fellow; Dr. Wesley James, a former post-doctorate research fellow; Hasna Khandekar, a former undergraduate research assistant; Willie Brown, a former research associate, and Dr. Heather Hanna, an assistant research professor.
- Appointed by Dr. David Shaw to serve on a Health Task Force to explore how MSU can best fulfill its land-grant mission of teaching, research, and service through a comprehensive transdisciplinary program in the area of health.

Dr. Ronald E. Cossman

- Reviewer for a fast-tracked manuscript “Impact of Local Care Environment and Social Characteristics on Aggregated Hospital-Fatality Rate from COVID-19 in France: Nationwide Observational Study” for The British Medical Journal. BMJ uses a compulsory open peer review process, in which both authors and reviewers are known.

Emile Creel

- Recognized at the 2019 Starkville/MSU Public Relations Association of Mississippi awards ceremony with a PRISM award for the 2019 Annual Report.
- Awarded a Certificate of Merit at the Public Relations Association of Mississippi awards ceremony for the 2019 Annual Report.

Sarah Dulaney

- Accepted into the Promoting Recruitment Opportunities in Medicine with Individual Study Experiences (PROMISE) program at the University of Mississippi Medical Center School of Medicine. Ms. Dulaney, an undergraduate research assistant in the SSRC Message Laboratory, is a sophomore Provost Scholar majoring in Microbiology on a pre-med track with a minor in Sociology.

Dr. John F. Edwards

- Featured in a story on the MSU newsroom for their survey work concerning the COVID-19 pandemic. Read the article at <https://bit.ly/2yGWAHj>.

Dr. Heather Hanna

- Asked by Committee Chairman, Sen. Giles Ward, to chair the Education Subcommittee of the Census 2020 Mississippi Complete Count Committee. As chair, she convenes and informs 25 state education leaders from universities, community colleges, K-12, child care, and non-profits.
- Highlighted in a Conversation article discussing populations most at risk of not being counted in the 2020 census. Find the article at <https://bit.ly/2L2tTOa>.

Malavika Jinka

- Received a First Place Award for her poster presentation at the 2019 MSU Graduate Research Symposium held on October 5th at Mississippi State University. Ms. Jinka is a SSRC GRA and Applied Anthropology Masters student.

Robert Kolbila

- Received a Third Place Award for his oral presentation at the 2019 MSU Graduate Research Symposium held on October 5th at Mississippi State University. Mr. Kolbila is an SSRC GRA and Sociology PhD student.

Dr. Emily Broad Leib

- Named a clinical professor of law at Harvard Law School. Read more about her and her appointment in this Harvard Law Today article, today.law.harvard.edu/emily-broad-leib-named-clinical-professor-of-law/. Dr. Leib is an SSRC research fellow and former delta fellow.

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Dr. Melanie Loehwing

- Awarded the National Communication Association's 2019 Diamond Anniversary Book Award for her recently published book, *Homeless Advocacy and the Rhetorical Construction of the Civic Home* (Penn State University Press, 2018). Given annually, the award honors the most outstanding scholarly book(s) published during the previous two years. <https://www.msstate.edu/newsroom/article/2019/09/msu-faculty-members-research-homelessness-wins-national-book-award>.
- Awarded the 2020 MSU College of Arts & Sciences Research Award in the Humanities.

Dr. Robert McMillen

- Interviewed by WJTV as part of their coverage of a recent Vaping Summit. Read the story at <https://www.wjtv.com/top-stories/vaping-summit-aims-to-educate-mississippians-on-dangers/?fbclid=IwAR030FAXI2w6tgrp6H65jR1PkZ4Xvz8M1CAxPfVeUkqxfWqPei3O6vC6z8g>.
- Featured in a story on the MSU newsroom for their survey work concerning the COVID-19 pandemic. Read the article at <https://bit.ly/2yGWAHj>.

Aubrey Parrish

- Presented her research at the summer MSU Undergraduate Research Symposium. Her project, "Effects of Body-Positive Marketing on Brand Success," won second place in the Social Sciences Division. Dr. Holli Seitz is her faculty mentor. Ms. Parrish was a summer intern for the SSRC Message Laboratory.

Dr. Kathleen Ragsdale

- Work with Fish for Zambia was shared in the USAID's Agrilinks newsletter. https://www.agrilinks.org/post/identifying-barriers-nutrition-zambias-lake-bangweulu-fishing-camps?utm_

Dr. Mary Read-Wahidi

- Work with Fish for Zambia was shared in the USAID's Agrilinks newsletter. https://www.agrilinks.org/post/identifying-barriers-nutrition-zambias-lake-bangweulu-fishing-camps?utm_

Dr. Angela Robertson

- Asked by the MS Department of Public Safety to serve on the Mississippi Human Trafficking Council, Policy & Legislative Subcommittee.

Dr. Holli Seitz

- Received the Distinguished Team Award from the Rho Chapter of Epsilon Sigma Phi, an organization for Extension professionals as part of the PROMISE Initiative (Preventing Opioid Misuse in the Southeast),
- Received funding from the Oak Ridge Associated Universities (ORAU) Event Sponsorship Program to develop a Mississippi Science Communication Summit, to be hosted in Fall 2020.
- Selected as the 2020 recipient of the MSU Alumni Association's Early Career Undergraduate Teaching Excellence Award. More information is available at <https://www.msstate.edu/newsroom/article/2020/05/msu-announces-annual-faculty-staff-academic-award-recipients>.
- Interviewed by Hearst Television for a national segment on viral COVID-19 public service announcements. The segment can be viewed at <https://www.kcra.com/article/coronavirus-psas-the-newest-trend-thats-going-viral/32227037>.
- Appointed by Dr. David Shaw to serve on a Health Task Force to explore how MSU can best fulfill its land-grant mission of teaching, research, and service through a comprehensive transdisciplinary program in the area of health.

Dr. David Swanson

- Featured author for *Population Review* for the month of July along with two co-authors for their paper *Estimating the Underlying Infant Mortality Rates for Small Populations, Including those Reporting Zero Infant Deaths: A Case Study of Counties in California*. Swanson is Professor Emeritus of Sociology, University of California Riverside. He served as a member of the U. S. Census Bureau's Scientific Advisory Committee for six years (2004-10) and chaired the committee for two years (2009-2010). He currently is an affiliated faculty member with the Center for Studies in Demography and Ecology at the University of Washington. Dr. Swanson is an SSRC Research Fellow.

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Dr. Ismail Yigit

- Awarded Outstanding Doctoral Student by the Mississippi State University Department of Sociology. The winners were selected by the Graduate Admissions and Support Committee of the Department of Sociology.

Tobacco Control Unit

- Presented with the 2019 MPHA Community Service Award at the Mississippi Public Health Association's annual conference.

Loftin Awards:

- Adriene Davis: Travel support to attend the North American Society for the Sociology of Sport conference.
- Laura Jean Kerr: Travel support to attend the 2019 Sociologists for Women in Society Annual Winter Conference.
- Erin King: Travel support to attend the annual meeting of the Southern Demographic Association.
- Sarah Rogers received funding to support dissertation data collection and analysis.