

## JASON E. SHELTON

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### **EDUCATION**

May 2005                      Ph.D., Sociology, University of Miami  
Primary Specialization: Race and Ethnic Relations

August 2000                      M.A., Sociology, University of Miami  
Primary Specialization: Race and Ethnic Relations

May 1998                        B.A., Sociology, Kent State University  
Minor: Pan African Studies

### **RESEARCH INTERESTS**

- Religious Affiliations and Politics within the Black Church
- Black Middle Class Culture and Ideology
- Racial and Ethnic Attitudes
- The Debate over Race vs. Class

### **TEACHING INTERESTS**

- Contemporary African American Experience
- Racial and Ethnic Groups in the US
- Sociology of Religion
- Introduction to Sociology

## **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

- University of Texas at Arlington** **Director.** Center for African American Studies (CAAS), Spring 2017 to present.
- University of Texas at Arlington** **Professor.** Department of Sociology and Anthropology, Fall 2022 to present.
- University of Texas at Arlington** **Associate Professor.** Department of Sociology and Anthropology, Fall 2014 to present.
- University of Texas at Arlington** **Faculty Affiliate.** Center for African American Studies (CAAS), Fall 2012 to Fall 2016.
- University of Texas at Arlington** **Assistant Professor.** Department of Sociology and Anthropology, Fall 2008 to Summer 2014.
- Rice University** **Postdoctoral Fellow.** Department of Sociology, Fall 2006 to Summer 2008.
- College of Wooster** **Assistant Professor.** Department of Sociology and Anthropology, Fall 2005 to Summer 2006.
- College of Wooster** **Visiting Assistant Professor.** Department of Sociology and Anthropology, Fall 2004 to Summer 2005.
- Miami-Dade College** **Adjunct Faculty.** Social Sciences Department, Fall 2000 to Summer 2003.
- University of Miami** **Graduate Assistant.** Department of Sociology, Fall 1998 to Spring 2003

## **PUBLICATIONS**

### **Books:**

Shelton, Jason E. 2024. *The Contemporary Black Church: The New Dynamics of African American Religion*. New York: New York University Press.

Shelton, Jason E. and Michael O. Emerson. 2012. *Blacks and Whites in Christian America: How Racial Discrimination Shapes Religious Convictions*. New York: New York University Press.

\*2014 Distinguished Book Award (Honorable Mention), American Sociological Association's Sociology of Religion Section

\*2012 C. Calvin Smith Award for “the most distinguished scholarly book on African American Studies published in the calendar year,” Southern Conference on African American Studies, Inc.

\*Book reviews appear in *American Journal of Sociology*, *American Studies*, *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion*, *Sociology of Religion*, *Review of Religious Research*, *Journal of African American History*, and *Choice: Current Reviews for Academic Libraries*.

\*“Authors Meet Critics” Session held at the August 2013 Association for the Sociology of Religion Meeting in New York City. Experts at leading research universities described the book as a major contribution to the literature.

\*Book prominently featured on several local Dallas/Fort Worth NBC News and Fox News programs, the *Dallas Morning News*, *Chicago Tribune*, *Journal and Courier*, *Rice Magazine*, as well as various websites including the Page99Test.com, and Black Christian News Network One.

### Refereed Articles:

Jason E. Shelton. 2018. “Is RELTRAD Still the Gold Standard?” *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion*, 57(4): 817-826.

\*Invitation to participate in a “comment and reply” on Derek Lehman and Darren Sherkat’s article on best practices for measuring religious affiliations among respondents in major surveys. Other commenters include Brian Steensland (lead author of the famed RELTRAD syntax—Indiana University/Purdue University Indianapolis), Conrad Hackett (Senior Demographer, Pew Research Center) and Tom Smith (Director, General Social Survey—University of Chicago).

Shelton, Jason E. and Ryon J. Cobb. 2017. “Black Reltrad: Measuring Religious Diversity and Commonality among African Americans.” *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion*, 56(4): 737-764.

Greene, Anthony D. and Jason E. Shelton. 2017. “No Fault of Their Own? Beliefs about the Causes of Racial Inequality among American Blacks, West Indians, and African Immigrants.” *Issues in Race and Society*, 5:123-147. (authors listed alphabetically).

Shelton, Jason E. 2017. “A Dream Deferred? Privileged Blacks’ and Whites’ Beliefs about Racial Inequality.” *Du Bois Review: Social Science Research on Race*, 14(1): 73-91.

Mangum, Maruice, LaTasha Chaffin, Anthony D. Greene, and Jason E. Shelton. 2016. “Aligned or Misaligned? Similarities and Differences between African Americans’ and Black Caribbeans’ Opinions on Affirmative Action.” *The Journal of Race and Policy*, 12(2): 51-83.

Shelton, Jason E., Curtis Brown, and Dante Bryant. 2016. “We, As a People? Assessing the Consequences of Various Sources of Diversity among African Americans.” *Phylon*, 53(2): 79-99.

Shelton, Jason E., Dante Bryant, and Curtis Brown. 2016. "Is Black America 'Disintegrating'? How Class Position, Age Cohort, and Immigrant Generation Shape Commitments to Racial Solidarity." *The Griot: The Journal of African American Studies*, 35(1): 88-108.

Shelton, Jason E. and Anthony D. Greene. 2012. "Get Up, Get Out, and Git Sumthin': How Race and Class Influence African Americans' Attitudes about Inequality." *American Behavioral Scientist*, 56 (11): 1480 - 1507 (This article appears in the second volume of a special edition on "Minority Middle Classes.")

\*Featured article on the "Key Research Articles" page on SociologyResearch.com, which recognizes papers selected from a wide variety of peer-reviewed journals and judged to be of major importance in sociology.

Shelton, Jason E. and Michael O. Emerson. 2010. "Extending the Debate over Nationalism versus Integration: How Cultural Commitments and Assimilation Trajectories Influence Beliefs about Black Power." *Journal of African American Studies*, 14: 312-336.

Shelton, Jason E. 2010. "E Pluribus Unum? How Racial, Ethnic, and Religious Group Memberships Impact Beliefs about American National Identity." *Nationalism and Ethnic Politics*, 16(1): 67-91.

Shelton, Jason E. and George Wilson. 2009. "Race, Class, and the Basis of Group Alignment: An Analysis of Support for Redistributive Policy among Privileged Blacks." *Sociological Perspectives*, 52(3): 385-408.

Shelton, Jason E. and M. Nicole Coleman. 2009. "After the Storm: How Race, Class, and Immigration Concerns Influenced Beliefs about the Katrina Evacuees." *Social Science Quarterly*, 90(3): 480-496.

Shelton, Jason E. 2008. "The Investment in Blackness Hypothesis: Toward Greater Understanding of Who Teaches What During Racial Socialization." *Du Bois Review: Social Science Research on Race*, 5(2): 235-257.

Shelton, Jason E. and George Wilson. 2006. "Socioeconomic Status and Racial Group Interests among Black Americans." *Sociological Spectrum*, 26(2): 183-204.

### **Refereed Book Chapters:**

Shelton, Jason E. forthcoming. "Culture as an Attribution for Racial Inequality." A chapter in *Africana Urban Education*, edited by James L. Conyers, Jr. and Abul Pitre. Jefferson, NC: McFarland & Co.

Shelton, Jason E. 2022. "Spirituality among African Americans: Inter-racial and Intra-racial Differences across Followers of Various Religious Traditions." A chapter in

*Situating Spirituality: Context, Practice, and Power*, edited by Brian Steensland, Anna Sun, and Jaime Kucinkas. New York: Oxford University Press.

Greene, Anthony D., LaTasha Chaffin, Maurice Mangum, and Jason E. Shelton. 2018. "Affirming or Disconfirming America's Promise: Attitudes about Affirmative Action among Black Americans and Black Immigrants." A chapter in *Africana Social Stratification*, edited by James L. Conyers, Jr., pp. 103-122. Lanham, MD: Lexington Books.

### **Non-Refereed Articles:**

Jason E. Shelton. 2021. Contributor to the Smithsonian Institute's "Anthology of Hip Hop and Rap." I wrote liner notes on the impact of the following classic songs: (1) "Nuthin' But A 'G' Thang" by Dr. Dre and Snoop Doggy Dog, and (2) "Mind Playing Tricks On Me" by the Geto Boys. Notes that I wrote for other songs (such as "Life Is... Too Short" by Too \$hort and "The Listening" by Little Brother) were not included in the final printing.

Jason E. Shelton. 2017. "To Family, Friends, and Colleagues of the Late Ben Agger." *Fast Capitalism*, 14:1.  
[http://www.uta.edu/huma/agger/fastcapitalism/14\\_1/Shelton-To-Family-Friends.htm](http://www.uta.edu/huma/agger/fastcapitalism/14_1/Shelton-To-Family-Friends.htm)

Jason E. Shelton and George Wilson. 2012. "Evolving Issues of Integration and Inequality among Middle Class Minorities." *American Behavioral Scientist*, 56 (11): 1459-1461. (This essay appears in the second volume of a special edition on "Minority Middle Classes." George Wilson and I co-edited these volumes.)

Wilson, George and Jason E. Shelton. 2012. "Race, Ethnicity, and Socioeconomic Inequality among Minority Middle Classes." *American Behavioral Scientist*, 56(5): 643-649. (This essay appears in the first volume of a special edition on "Minority Middle Classes." George Wilson and I co-edited these volumes.)

Shelton, Jason E. and Anthony D. Greene. 2008. "Blacks and Latinos: Demographic and Educational Trends." A paper commissioned by the Southern Education Foundation to be published online.

Shelton, Jason E. 2008. *Encyclopedia of Race, Ethnicity, and Society*. Contributed entries on "Malcolm X" (with Jeff Johnson, pgs.864-867), "Prisons" (with Sarah Spain, pgs.1070-1073), and "Ghetto" (pgs.546-548). Edited by Richard T. Schaefer. Los Angeles, CA: Sage Publications.

Shelton, Jason E. 1998. "Black United Students: The Foundation Years, 1968-1970." *Uhuru Magazine (Special Edition)*. Kent, OH: Kent State University Press.

**Works in Progress:****Article:**

Shelton, Jason E., Jerry Z. Park, and Brian Steensland. "RELTRAD in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century: Improving the Measure of American Religion."

Shelton, Jason E. "How Denominational Affiliations Impact Beliefs about Personal Happiness and Self-Reported Health."

**Book:**

Shelton, Jason E. *The Middle Class Melting Pot: Revisiting the Debate over Assimilation versus Pluralism in Modern America.*

**ADDITIONAL RESEARCH EXPERIENCE**

- Spring 2008      **Houston Area Survey Working Group.** Rice University.  
Supervisor: Steve Klineberg, Ph.D.
- Summer 2007      **ICPSR Program Scholar.** Inter-University Consortium for Political and  
Social Research, University of Michigan.
- Summer 1998      **National Urban Change Project**  
**Research Assistant / Qualitative Interviewer**  
Co-Supervisors: Dr. Andrew London and Dr. Ellen Scott  
Kent State University, Department of Sociology (research site in  
Cleveland, Ohio).

**GRANTS/INTERNAL FUNDING**

- Fall 2008      **STARS PLUS Award.** Professional funds to be used for operational purposes  
such as funding personnel and research-related expenditures. *The University of  
Texas System* (Award: \$40,500).
- Fall 2005      **Faculty Development Funds** for research on race and ethnic relations in Recife,  
Brazil. *College of Wooster* (Award: \$2,000).

## **AWARDS AND HONORS**

- December 2023      **Maverick Advantage Distinction.** Recognition for Faculty and Staff who have left a Positive Impact on Students’ Experiential Learning Journeys during the 22-23 academic year. University of Texas at Arlington
- Summer 2022—  
Summer 2023      **Selected to join Cohort 5 of the Texas Academic Leadership Academy.** This year-long experience is aimed at developing leadership skills in aspiring academic leaders. Sponsored by the Texas Council of Chief Academic Officers.
- September 2022      Inaugural cohort to be included in the **Academy of Distinguished Service Leaders (ADSL).** This honor is a recognition of my “outstanding service contributions to the University and the Community.” University of Texas at Arlington.
- March 2022      **Food For Thought Faculty Luncheon** (Freshman Leaders On Campus honor faculty members for their dedication and commitment to higher education). University of Texas at Arlington.
- March 2021      **City Cultural Diversity Award** recognizing the City of Arlington’s “Unity Council.” The National League of Cities bestows this honor to a particular city for developing innovative diversity programs.  
[https://www.arlingtontx.gov/news/my\\_arlington\\_tx/news\\_stories/city\\_cultural\\_diversity\\_award](https://www.arlingtontx.gov/news/my_arlington_tx/news_stories/city_cultural_diversity_award)
- January 2021      **City of Arlington’s “Advancing the Dream Award.”** This honor recognizes outstanding contributions to the Arlington community in the spirit of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.
- July 2019      **Distinguished Father Award** for assisting the Arlington Chapter of Jack and Jill of America, Inc. Jack and Jill is arguably the most preeminent family-oriented organization in Black America. This award recognizes a father in the community that assists the chapter across various activities and events over the calendar year.
- April 2018      **Dr. June James Distinguished Education Leader Award** for strong contributions to the community. This major award is sponsored by the Arlington, Texas, branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP).
- September 2016      **College of Liberal Arts Dean’s Accolade Endowment Mentoring Award** for leading independent studies, attending academic conferences and publishing two research papers with Dante Bryant (Doctoral Candidate, Social Work) and M. Curtis Brown (Master’s Student, Sociology). University of Texas at Arlington

- April 2014      **Food For Thought Faculty Luncheon** (Freshman Leaders On Campus honor faculty members for their dedication and commitment to higher education). University of Texas at Arlington.
- August 2013      Named a “Recognized Professor” by a 2013 initiate of **The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi**, our nation’s oldest, largest, and most selective *all-discipline* honor society (this award recognizes the *one* faculty member who has had the most profound impact on the academic development of one of our University’s best students).
- April 2013      **Food For Thought Faculty Luncheon** (Freshman Leaders On Campus honor faculty members for their dedication and commitment to higher education). University of Texas at Arlington.
- January 2013      Nomination for **Honors College Outstanding Faculty Award** (recognizes the special contributions made to the university by Honors College faculty). University of Texas at Arlington.
- April 2012      **Food For Thought Faculty Luncheon** (Freshman Leaders On Campus honor faculty members for their dedication and commitment to higher education). University of Texas at Arlington.
- October 2010      **The Alicia Wilkerson Smotherman Faculty Award** (recognizes faculty in the College of Liberal Arts for exceptional teaching contributions and mentorship. This distinction is now known as the College of Liberal Arts Dean’s Accolade Endowment Mentoring Award). University of Texas at Arlington.
- February 2008      **Favorite Professor Dinner**. Rice University.
- May 2005      **Graduate School Award for Academic Excellence**. University of Miami.
- 1998-2003      **Semesterly Tuition Waiver and Graduate Stipend**. Department of Sociology, University of Miami.
- August 2003      **College of Arts and Sciences Graduate Teaching Assistant Award**. University of Miami.
- August 2003      **Department of Sociology Outstanding Graduate Instructor Award**. University of Miami.
- December 2002      **Guest Faculty Coach for Big East Conference Championship Football Game**. University of Miami (awarded by student-athletes on the basis of outstanding teaching evaluations).

## **UNIVERSITY SERVICE**

- Spring 2024            **Member** of Task Force on Centers and Institutes, which reports to the Vice President of Research. University of Texas at Arlington
- Spring 2023-2024    **Member** of Sociology & Anthropology Celebration of Student Achievement Planning Committee (Department of Sociology and Anthropology). University of Texas at Arlington.
- Fall 2022—  
Fall 2024            **Member** of College of Liberal Arts Committee on Tenure and Promotion. University of Texas at Arlington
- Spring 2021—  
Summer 2022       **Chaired Search Committee** to hire a new administrative assistant in the Center for African American Studies.
- Spring 2021—  
Summer 2022       **UT System Board of Regents** accepted my co-authored proposal with Dr. Christian Zloliniski (Director of Center for Mexican American Studies) to build a new patio in-front of CAAS and CMAS to enhance the sense of community. University of Texas at Arlington.
- Fall 2021—  
Summer 2022       Member of **Committee on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion responsible for analyzing the 2021 Campus Climate Survey on Inclusive Workplace.** Presented results with various campus groups including the University Leadership Council, Council of Deans, Faculty Senate, and many other campus stakeholders. University of Texas at Arlington
- Spring 2022—  
Summer 2022       **Search Committee** member to hire a new Director for the Office of Multicultural Affairs. University of Texas at Arlington.
- Spring 2022            Member of **College of Liberal Arts Strategic Planning Group.** Helped to develop strategic document based on the University’s Strategic Plan 2025. University of Texas at Arlington.
- Spring 2022            **Search Committee** member to hire a new Assistant Professor of History. University of Texas at Arlington.
- Summer 2021           **Master’s Thesis Committee, Chair** (Ladarius Beck, Department of Sociology and Anthropology). “The Black Church and Guns: Assessing the Links between Religion and Race in the United States.” University of Texas at Arlington.
- February 2021        **Established the Center for African American Studies’ “Pat Brandenburg Scholarship in African American Studies.”** Up to six high-achieving undergraduate students will be awarded \$3,000 each.

Winners will be announced annually at An Evening of Black Excellence: Achievements and Graduation.

- October 2020—  
February 2021      **Search Committee** member to hire inaugural Vice President for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion. University of Texas at Arlington.
- November 2020      **Moderator** for the Provost Office’s “21 Day Racial Equity & Habit Building Exercise.” University of Texas at Arlington
- July 2020            **Planning Committee Member** and **Moderator** for the Provost Office’s “Open Discussion on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion,” a virtual town hall on the race/ethnic relations in the US and racial/ethnic conditions within various offices that report to the Provost.
- June 2020            **Planning Committee Member** and **Moderator** for UTA’s “Black Lives Matter in a Community that Cares,” a virtual town hall on the death of George Floyd as well as the consequences of civil disobedience and rioting across the US inspired by his passing. More than 800 faculty and staff members attended this event.
- June 2020            **Moderator** for the Office of Multicultural Affairs and Center for African American Studies town hall meeting on the death of George Floyd as well as the consequences of civil disobedience and rioting across the US inspired by his passing.
- February 2020        **Planning Committee Member** and **Moderator** for rapper and activist Common’s “Master Class” as part of his visit to UTA as part of the Maverick Speakers Series.
- January 2020        **Moderator** for the School of Social Work’s Faculty and Staff Retreat on “culture and inclusion.” University of Texas at Arlington.
- Spring 2020         Provost Office approved my proposal for the Center for African American Studies to **hire two full-time, non-tenure-track assistant professors with joint appointments**. One position will be split with the School of Social Work, while the other will be split with the Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice in the College of Liberal Arts. These are CAAS’ first full-time faculty members. University of Texas at Arlington.
- Summer 2019        **Search Committee** member to hire a new Assistant Director for the Office of Multicultural Affairs. University of Texas at Arlington.
- Spring 2019—  
Present                **AAFSA Faculty and Staff Excellence Awards Committee** responsible for establishing parameters for these major new awards, managing the process, and selecting winners for these annual awards that will be

- announced during the An Evening of Black Excellence: Achievements and Graduation. University of Texas at Arlington.
- Spring 2019      **Master’s Thesis-Substitute Committee, Chair** (Curtis Brown, Department of Sociology and Anthropology). “What is Progress for Black Americans?” University of Texas at Arlington.
- Summer 2018—  
Summer 2019      **Search Committee** member to hire a new Director for the Office of Multicultural Affairs. University of Texas at Arlington.
- Spring 2018      **Master’s Thesis Committee, Chair** (Christopher Robertson, Department of Sociology and Anthropology). “Race, Class, & Support for Use of Force among Police Officers.” University of Texas at Arlington.
- Spring 2018      **Master’s Non-Thesis Committee, Chair** (Denise Carmona, Department of Sociology and Anthropology). “Obstacles in Achieving Success for Women.” University of Texas at Arlington.
- Spring 2018      **UT Arlington Undergraduate Assembly** approved my proposal to add a new course in African American Studies to the University Catalog: “Black Political and Social Thought.” The following courses were approved to transition from special topics to the University Catalog: “Black Families” and “Black Women in Society.”
- Spring 2018      **Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB)** approved by proposal to have “Introduction to African American Studies” added to the undergraduate Core Curriculum at UT Arlington. (Austin, TX)
- Spring 2018—  
Present      **An Evening of Black Excellence: Achievements and Graduation (Planning Committee)**. Major event sponsored by CAAS and AAFSA designed to recognize Black students’ achievements, as well as students of all racial and ethnic backgrounds that minor in African American Studies or participate in CAAS programs. This key event shows our graduates, their families, and friends that the UTA community welcomes, supports, encourages and applauds these students and the vital role they play in enhancing the culture of diversity that exists at UTA. University of Texas at Arlington.
- February 2018      Organized and facilitated the Center for African American Studies (CAAS) first major fundraiser, “CAAS Night at the Jubilee.” The Center raised nearly \$5000 during this event, which took place at the Jubilee Theatre, a historic African American playhouse located in Sundance Square in downtown Fort Worth. We watched a performance of the play **Detroit ’67**, which tells the story of two brothers whose lives are moving in different directions when race riots break out in the city. The classic

sounds of Motown music help to tell this story of trial, tribulation, family, and the American Dream.

- Fall 2017 **Master's Thesis-Substitute Committee, Chair** (Aamal Alabed, Department of Sociology and Anthropology). "Assimilation Theory and Muslims in the United States." University of Texas at Arlington.
- Summer 2017 **McNair Scholars Faculty Mentor** (to Rashad Harrison, a sociology student selected for the McNair Scholars Program). University of Texas at Arlington.
- Spring 2017 **Dissertation Committee** (Cheryl McIntosh, College of Business). "The Bounds of Occupational Choice: At the Intersections between Background Characteristics On the Career Path." University of Texas at Arlington.
- Spring 2017 **Master's Non-Thesis Committee** (Jesse Kartes, Department of Sociology and Anthropology). "Gender Inequality." University of Texas at Arlington.
- Fall 2016—  
Fall 2019 **Task Force on Recruitment and Retention of Underrepresented Faculty and Staff** (Co-Chair) charged by President Karbhari to assess our campus climate as well as study best-practices and provide recommendations for enhancing the diversity of interview pools for leadership positions at UT Arlington.
- Fall 2016 **Master's Thesis Committee/Mid-Program Review** (Terrance Raper, Art & Art History Department—Film and Video Art). University of Texas at Arlington.
- Summer 2016 **Campus Carry Training Sub-Committee** member to provide feedback in developing an online and public presentation for disseminating information about the policy to the campus community. University of Texas at Arlington.
- Fall 2015—  
Spring 2017 **Department of Sociology and Anthropology Research Committee** (Chair) for evaluating Faculty Development Leaves (FDLs) and Research Enhancement Proposals (REPs). University of Texas at Arlington.
- Spring 2015 **Search Committee** member to hire a new Dean for the College of Liberal Arts (COLA). University of Texas at Arlington.
- Spring 2015 **Dissertation Committee** (Brandon Jones, Department of Educational Leadership and Policy Studies). "The Experiences of High-Achieving Black Male Student Athletes at Predominantly White Division 1 Schools in the South." University of Texas at Arlington.

- Spring 2015                    **Dissertation Committee** (Brian L. English, Department of Educational Leadership and Policy Studies). “Spirituality and Religion among Black Men in College: A Potential Mechanism for Achieving Student Success.” University of Texas at Arlington.
- Spring 2015-2016                **University Nominating Committee**, which is responsible for evaluating and recommending Faculty Development Leaves (FDLs) to President Khabhari.
- Spring 2015-2016                **College of Liberal Arts Committee** for evaluating and recommending Faculty Development Leaves (FDLs) and Research Enhancement Proposals (REPs).
- Fall 2014-Spring 2015        **Search Committee** member to hire an Assistant Professor of Sociology. University of Texas at Arlington.
- Fall 2014                        **Tenure and Promotion Committee** for Inter-Disciplinary Studies Program (School of Urban and Public Affairs). University of Texas at Arlington
- Fall 2014-Summer 2016        **Faculty Senator** representing the Department of Sociology and Anthropology. University of Texas at Arlington
- Summer 2014                    **Search Committee** member to hire a new Administrative Assistant in the Center for African American Studies. University of Texas at Arlington.
- Spring 2014                    **Undergraduate Research Fellowship Committee**, which rewards deserving students with summer research funds on the basis of his/her grades, career aspirations, and possesses a strong interest in attending graduate school. (Honors College) University of Texas at Arlington.
- Fall 2013                        **Master’s Thesis Committee** (Paul Blankenship, Department of Sociology and Anthropology). “Meanings, Memes, and Motorcycles: Complexity and Commodification in Cultural Studies.” University of Texas at Arlington.
- Spring 2013-Fall 2016        **Undergraduate Core Curriculum Revisions Representative** (Sociology Program) University of Texas at Arlington.
- Summer 2013                    **Kathryn A. Head Scholarship Committee**, which rewards a deserving student on the basis of his/her grades, career aspirations, and possesses a strong interest in attending graduate school (McNair Scholars Program and Student Support Services). University of Texas at Arlington.
- May 2013                        **Moderator** for Derek “Fonzworth Bentley” Watkins’s keynote address at the Center for African American Studies inaugural conference, “Critical

- Issues in Black Studies: Race In Context.” University of Texas at Arlington.
- Spring 2013      **Master’s Thesis Committee, Chair** (M. Faye Hanson, Department of Sociology and Anthropology). “Color-Coding Poverty: Selective Commitments to Individualism and Structuralism Across Racial and Ethnic Groups.” University of Texas at Arlington.
- Summer 2012      **McNair Scholars Faculty Mentor** (to TiMar Long, a sociology student selected for the McNair Scholars Program). University of Texas at Arlington.
- Spring 2012      **Search Committee** member to hire the first Director of the new Center for African American Studies. University of Texas at Arlington
- Spring 2012      **Master’s Thesis Committee** (Hamidullah Qeyam, Department of Sociology and Anthropology). “The Ethnicization of Politics in Afghanistan.” University of Texas at Arlington.
- Summer 2011      **Master’s Thesis Committee** (Jesse R. Booher, Department of Sociology and Anthropology). “State-Agents vs. Citizen-Agents: How Parental Values and Socioeconomic Backgrounds Impact the Construction of Work-Related Identities in Street-Level Bureaucracy.” University of Texas at Arlington.
- Summer 2010      **McNair Scholars Faculty Mentor** (to Mary Faye Hanson-Evans, a sociology student selected for the McNair Scholars Program). University of Texas at Arlington.
- Fall 2009-  
Spring      **Sociology Student Association** (Co-Faculty Advisor, Department of 2016 Sociology and Anthropology). University of Texas at Arlington.
- Fall 2008-  
Present      **Undergraduate Curriculum Committee** (Sociology Program, Department of Sociology and Anthropology). University of Texas at Arlington.
- Fall 2008-  
Present      **Social Diversity Concentration Committee** (Department of Sociology and Anthropology). University of Texas at Arlington.
- Fall 2008-  
May 2015      **Sociology Awards Banquet Committee** (Department of Sociology and Anthropology). University of Texas at Arlington.
- Fall 2008-  
Spring 2015      **Professional Development Committee** (African American Faculty and Staff Association). University of Texas at Arlington.

## **PROFESSIONAL SERVICE**

- April 2022—  
October 2022      **Member of 2022 General Social Survey Religion Core Revision Committee.** The GSS is a nationally-representative survey that has been used to track Americans' beliefs across a wide range of political, social, and cultural issues since 1972. This committee was charged with offering suggestions for revising survey ballots and items on religion in order to ensure that the GSS remains relevant in capturing contemporary trends in American religion.
- 2020-Present      **Editorial Board Member, *Review of Religious Research*** (the official journal of the Religious Research Association).
- August 2021—  
June 2022      **Mentor** to graduate students enrolled in the Association of Black Sociologists Mentorship Program.
- October 2020      **External Reviewer** for candidates seeking tenure and promotion to Associate Professor of Sociology.
- 2019-2022      **Editorial Board Member, *Social Currents*** (the official journal of the Southern Sociological Society).
- 2015      **Distinguished Book Award Committee**, American Sociological Association's Section on the Sociology of Religion.

### Ad Hoc Manuscript Reviewer:

- *American Behavioral Scientist*
- *American Journal of Sociology*
- *American Sociological Review*
- *Du Bois Review: Social Science Research On Race*
- *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion*
- *Social Forces*
- *Sociological Forum*
- *Sociological Perspectives*
- *Sociological Quarterly*
- *Social Science Quarterly*
- *Sociology of Race and Ethnicity*
- *Sociology of Religion*
- *Religions*

## **PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS**

- *African American Faculty and Staff Association (AAFSA – University of Texas at Arlington)*

- *American Sociological Association (ASA – Section on Racial/Ethnic Minorities & Sociology of Religion Section)*
- *Association for the Sociology of Religion (ASR)*
- *Association of Black Sociologists (ABS)*
- *Society for the Scientific Study of Religion (SSSR)*
- *Southern Conference on African American Studies (SCAAS)*
- *Southern Sociological Society (SSS)*

### **INVITED SPEAKER**

- |                |   |
|----------------|---|
| May 2024       | “Code-Switching: Is it Necessary? What are the Consequences?” Served as a panelist and provided a short introductory lecture to the national Black Excellence Council for Lockheed Martin Corporation. White Settlement, TX                           |
| September 2023 | “What Does It Mean to Leave a Legacy?” A fireside chat with for the 2023 Regional Emerging Multicultural Leadership Experience conference with the North Texas YMCA. Arlington, TX.   |
| March 2022     | “Go To High School, Go To College!” A conversation with students at James Martin High School, a highly-respected public institution. Arlington, TX.   |
| January 2022   | “Civil Rights: Yesterday and Today.” A conversation with the NBC 5’s Black Employee Network. Dallas, TX.  |
| October 2022   | “Unity Council Report.” A conversation with the Arlington Chapter of the Association of Junior Leagues International, Inc. Arlington, TX.   |
| August 2021    | “30 Americans: Diverse Impressions of Black Experiences.” Major presentation to the Arlington Museum of Art. Arlington, TX.   |
| March 2021     | “Religious Diversity among African Americans.” Major presentation sponsored by the Department of Sociology at the University of Notre Dame. South Bend, IN.   |
| February 2021  | “Understanding Black Leadership: Revisiting the Longstanding Debate between Nationalism vs. Integration.” Presentation to The Oakridge School, a prestigious local-area private school. Arlington, TX.  |
| February 2021  | “From Black Lives Matter to COVID-19: How to Solve Our Nation’s Longstanding Problem of Racial Inequality.” Major presentation to the United States Army Corps of Engineers for the 2021 African American Heritage Month Observation. Fort Worth, TX. |

- January 2021 “Advancing the Dream.” Keynote address as part of the City of Arlington’s Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, Celebration. Arlington, TX.
- November 2020 “Religious Diversity among African Americans.” Major presentation sponsored by the African American Studies Program and Department of Religious Studies at the College of Charleston. Charleston, SC.
- October 2020 “Religious Diversity among African Americans.” Major presentation sponsored by the Honors College. (University of Texas at Arlington)
- August 2020 “From Black Lives Matter to COVID-19: How to Solve Our Nation’s Longstanding Problem of Racial Inequality.” Keynote address to Redbox Corporation. Seattle, WA.
- July 2020 “Conversation on Race and Current Events.” Presentation sponsored by Hagar’s Heart. Arlington, TX.
- June 2020 “From Black Lives Matter to COVID-19: How to Solve Our Nation’s Longstanding Problem of Racial Inequality.” Major presentation sponsored by Congregation Beth Shalom. Arlington TX.
- February 2020 “Why Do African Americans Pray So Often?” Keynote address for the Black History Month Celebration at Armstrong AME Church. Arlington, TX.
- February 2020 Invited speaker for “Black Power Panel” featuring local leaders in the Black Power Movement in the 1960s. This event was sponsored by the UT Arlington Library. Arlington, TX.
- January 2020 “Religious Diversity among African Americans.” Major presentation sponsored by the Department of Sociology at Rice University. Houston, TX.
- January 2020 Invited Panelist for a discussion on “Race and Evangelical Politics” sponsored by the Religion in Public Life Program at Rice University. Houston, TX.
- August 2019 “Six Major Consequences of American Slavery.” Presentation to the Dallas Chapter of BLEWS (Blacks and Jews). Dallas, TX.
- March 2019 “Why Do African Americans Pray So Often?” Major presentation for the Outstanding Speaker Opportunity Series sponsored by the Department of Sociology at Baylor University. Waco, TX.

- February 2019. “Consequences of Black Migration in the Contemporary United States.” Major presentation to the United States Army Corps of Engineers for the 2019 African American Heritage Month Observation. Fort Worth, TX.
- February 2019 “Changes in Middle Class Blacks’ Beliefs about Racial Inequality and Affirmative Action, 1985-2016.” Major presentation for the Black History Month Lecture Series sponsored by the African American Faculty and Staff Association. (University of Texas at Arlington).
- February 2019 “Obama-ology.” Major presentation and moderated a discussion on the impact of President Barack Obama’s administration immediately prior to viewing a play on this topic at the historic Jubilee Theatre. This event was sponsored by Tarrant County College’s Trinity River Campus. Fort Worth, TX.
- January 2019 “Understanding Black Leadership: Revisiting the Longstanding Debate between Nationalism vs. Integration.” Presentation to Alpha Ambassador’s Club, which is sponsored by the Nu Pi Lambda Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity. Arlington, TX.
- February 2018 Invited Panelist for the “Introduction to African American Studies Research Symposium” held at the University of Houston, which is home to one of the most influential Black Studies programs in the United States. I also presented my paper “Social Class, Religious Affiliations, and Religious Sensibilities among African Americans.” Houston, Texas.
- January 2018 “Why Do African Americans Pray So Often?” Delivered the Distinguished Lecture for the Ivan J. Fahn Symposium at Wheaton College for key sociologists or educational leaders who demonstrate the highest standards of ethical behavior and professionalism in diverse domains. Wheaton, Illinois.
- February 2017 “Ada Lois Sipuel: A Hidden Figure in Black History.” Keynote address to the Lockheed Martin Corporation’s Annual Black History Month Symposium. White Settlement, TX.
- February 2017 “Understanding Black Leadership: Revisiting the Longstanding Debate between Nationalism vs. Integration.” Presentation to the University of North Texas at Dallas. Dallas, TX.
- February 2017 “Understanding Black Leadership: Revisiting the Longstanding Debate between Nationalism vs. Integration.” Presentation to Tarrant County Community College (Trinity River Campus). Fort Worth, TX.

- January 2017      Invited to lead a series of roundtable discussions on “Texas’ Growing Socioeconomic Divide” during the Texas Tribune’s “Symposium on Race and Public Policy.” (Huston-Tillotson University). Austin, TX
- December 2016      Featured Panelist for the Athletic Department’s “Town Hall Forum: Social Issues in America and our Community.” (University of Texas at Arlington)
- February 2016      “Understanding Black Leadership: Revisiting the Longstanding Debate between Nationalism vs. Integration.” Presentation hosted by the Judith J. Carrier Library at Tarrant County Community College (Southeast Campus). Arlington, TX.
- February 2016      “Understanding Black Leadership: An Overview of the Debate between Nationalism vs. Integration.” Presentation sponsored by the office of Multicultural Affairs. (University of Texas at Arlington)
- February 2016      Featured Facilitator for the Office of Multicultural Affairs’ “Black Leadership Institute.” (University of Texas at Arlington).
- November 2015      Keynote address to the Trio Program, a Federal initiative “designed to identify and provide services for individuals from disadvantaged backgrounds.” (University of Texas at Arlington)
- September 2015      Introductory speech for the Annual Park Jam and Networking Event hosted by Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity. (University of Texas at Arlington)
- August 2015      “Why Do African Americans Pray So Often?” Keynote Presentation to the Advancing Pastoral Leadership Conference, which is sponsored by the Texas Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church. Dallas, TX
- February 2015      “The New Black? Exploring Racial Identity in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century” with Dante Bryant, MSSW. Presentation sponsored by the Center for African American Studies. (University of Texas at Arlington)
- February 2015      “Understanding Black Leadership: An Overview of the Debate between Nationalism vs. Integration.” Presentation hosted by the English Department and Jenkins-Garrett Library at Tarrant County Community College (South Campus). Fort Worth, TX.
- March 2014      “Why Do African Americans Pray So Often?” Presentation sponsored by the Richland Arts Festival at Richland College. Dallas, TX
- March 2014      “Why Do African Americans Pray So Often?” Presentation sponsored by the African American Studies Program at the College of Charleston. Charleston, SC.

- February 2014 “Why Do African Americans Pray So Often?” Presentation sponsored by the Honors College. (University of Texas at Arlington)
- February 2014 “Understanding Black Leadership: A Never-Ending Personal and Professional Journey.” Featured speaker for the “Black Leadership Initiative,” a seminar sponsored by the Office of Multicultural Affairs that addressed the links between academic success and racial solidarity among black students. (University of Texas at Arlington)
- February 2014 Keynote speaker at the 2014 “African American Heritage Read-In” hosted by the English Department and Jenkins-Garrett Library at Tarrant County Community College (South Campus). Fort Worth, TX.
- January 2014 “Understanding Black Leadership: A Never-Ending Personal and Professional Journey.” Featured speaker during the Center for African American Studies “Emerging Leaders Retreat.” (University of Texas at Arlington)
- October 2013 Featured speaker at the “Barbershop Talk” forum hosted by Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. (University of Texas at Arlington)
- March 2013 “Why Do African Americans Pray So Often?” Presentation sponsored by the McNair Scholars Program. (University of Texas at Arlington)
- March 2013 “Why Do African Americans Pray So Often?” Presentation sponsored by the Department of Pan African Studies and Department of Sociology at Kent State University. Kent, OH.
- March 2013 “Why Do African Americans Pray So Often?” Presentation sponsored by L.E.A.D. (Leaders Educating about Diversity) in the Office of Multicultural Affairs. (University of Texas at Arlington)
- January 2013 “Why Do African Americans Pray So Often?” Presentation sponsored by St. Paul United Methodist Church. Hurst, TX.
- January 2013 Featured speaker on “diversity” hosted by the Freshman Leaders On Campus (FLOC). (University of Texas at Arlington)
- December 2012 Featured speaker at the “Evening with Authors” hosted by the Center for African American Studies (CAAS). (University of Texas at Arlington)
- October 2012 Feature speaker at panel on “Male Development” hosted by Iota Phi Theta Fraternity, Inc. (University of Texas at Arlington)

- October 2012 Feature speaker on “Wellbeing” hosted by the Freshman Leaders on Campus (FLOC). (University of Texas at Arlington)
- April 2012 Featured speaker at the Summer Research Orientation Luncheon for faculty mentors in McNair Scholars Program. (University of Texas at Arlington)
- March 26, 2012 Featured speaker at a rally and march aimed at calling attention to the death of Trayvon Martin. This event was organized by UTA’s undergraduate chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), and was supported by the larger local Arlington chapter. (University of Texas at Arlington)
- February 2012 “Maverick Speakers Series” featuring Soledad O’Brien, the widely known CNN tv news anchor. I also introduced Provost Elsenbaumer at this event. (University of Texas at Arlington)
- February 2012 “The Talented 10<sup>th</sup> in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.” Keynote Speaker for the “Black Leadership Initiative,” a seminar sponsored by the Office of Multicultural Affairs that addressed the links between academic success and racial solidarity among black students. (University of Texas at Arlington)
- March 2011 “Who Are We? Where Are We Going? And Why Must We Come Together?” Keynote Speaker for the “Brotherhood Initiative,” a program sponsored by the Office of Multicultural Affairs that aims to improve academic performances as well as promote a “sense of community” among African American males on-campus. (University of Texas at Arlington)
- February 2010 Featured Panelist for the Office of Multicultural Affairs’ Black History Month session on success strategies for Black students on predominantly White campuses. (University of Texas at Arlington)
- February 2009 – 2012 Featured Facilitator for the Office of Multicultural Affairs’ “Black Leadership Institute.” (University of Texas at Arlington). My latest talk was entitled, “The Talented 10<sup>th</sup> in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.”
- May 2009 “You Already Possess the Keys to Success.” Keynote address to the Alpha Ambassador Club, a Rites of Passage and Scholarship Awards Program sponsored by the local chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. The Mayor of the City of Arlington named declared Friday, May 22<sup>nd</sup> “Alpha Phi Alpha Day.”
- September 2007 “Are We Really a Melting Pot? How Religion and Race Differences Impact Beliefs about the American Nationality.” Presentation sponsored by the Department of Sociology. (University of Houston)

- March 2006 “Debating Race vs. Class: What’s Happening with Black Americans?” Presentation sponsored by the African American Studies program. (University of Houston)
- February 2002 Black History Month Invocation. Miami-Dade College (Kendall Campus)

### **MEDIA/PUBLIC SOCIOLOGY**

- September 2024 *Texas Standard: The National Daily News Show of Texas* (NPR), “Shifts in African American Religious Affiliation May Impact This Fall’s Presidential Election.”  
<https://www.texasstandard.org/stories/the-contemporary-black-church-book-african-american-religious-affiliation-presidential-election-shelton/>
- September 2024 *Sojourners*. “Trump’s Black Allies Want To Win Over Christians. Will it work?”  
[Trump’s Black Allies Want to Win Over Black Christians. Will it Work? | Sojourners](https://www.sojourners.com/news/trumps-black-allies-want-to-win-over-black-christians-will-it-work/)
- September 2024 *Fort Worth Report*, “Arlington’s Unity Council now a permanent fixture in search of a more equitable city.”  
<https://fortworthreport.org/2024/09/03/arlingtons-unity-council-now-a-permanent-fixture-in-search-of-a-more-equitable-city/>
- September 2024 *Religion News Service*, “The Black Church has moved from essential to voluntary, says author Jason Shelton.”  
<https://religionnews.com/2024/09/03/the-black-church-has-moved-from-essential-to-voluntary-says-author-jason-shelton/>
- September 2024 Slate.com, A Word with Jason Johnson (podcast) “Prayer, Politics, and Power Shifts: Trump and Harris both want Black Church support. Do they know how to find it?”  
<https://slate.com/podcasts/a-word/2024/08/the-black-power-of-politics-and-prayer>
- July 2024 *Religion News Service*, “After debate, Black churchgoers often support but begin to question Biden.”  
<https://religionnews.com/2024/07/11/after-debate-black-churchgoers-often-support-but-begin-to-question-biden/>
- June 2024 Moderated a public forum featuring the Chair of the Tarrant County Democratic Party (Crystal Gayden) and the Chair of the Tarrant County Republican Party (Bo French) for the Arlington NAACP. Arlington, TX.

- May 2024 *Brookings Institution*, “The Black Church and the 2024 Presidential Election.” (Commentary essay)  
<https://www.brookings.edu/articles/the-black-church-and-the-2024-presidential-election/>
- February 2024 *Christianity Today*, “Black Americans Who Leave Church Don’t Go Far.”  
<https://www.christianitytoday.com/news/2024/february/african-american-nones-black-church-faith-shift-pew-deconst.html>
- February 2024 *Religion News Service*, “For Black ‘nones’ who leave religion, what’s next?”  
[For Black ‘nones’ who leave religion, what’s next? \(religionnews.com\)](https://www.religionnews.com/news/2024/02/for-black-nones-who-leave-religion-what-s-next/)
- February 2024 *Dallas Morning News*, “‘Ode to hip hop’: Big Daddy Kane joins UTA’s celebration of the genre’s 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary.”  
[‘Ode to hip hop’: Big Daddy Kane joins UTA’s celebration of the genre’s 50th anniversary \(dallasnews.com\)](https://www.dallasnews.com/entertainment/music/2024/02/08/ode-to-hip-hop-big-daddy-kane-uta-celebration-50th-anniversary/)
- February 2024 Interview with “Dede In The Morning,” a popular radio show that is syndicated in 26 cities across the United States on K104 Hip Hop and R&B. Our interview focused on CAAS’ celebration of the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Hip Hop, but also addressed other topics such as classes that I teach at UT Arlington, as well as my latest book that will be published in August 2024.
- August 2023 Presentation and submission of the “Unity Council Report” to Mayor Ross and the Arlington City Council. Our 137-page final report addressed racial and ethnic disparities, as well as challenges facing senior citizens, local residents with disabilities, and the City’s LGBTQ+ community. It included 15 new recommendations and provided an update on the original 59 recommendations from the inaugural Unity Council. Many of these recommendations have already been implemented, and the Unity Council is now a permanent standing committee in the City of Arlington that reports to the Mayor. Arlington, TX.
- November 2022 Interview with CBS11 (KTVT) on the City of Arlington’s Hiring of Troy Williams, the City’s inaugural Chief Equity Officer. His hiring was a recommendation of the Unity Council.  
<https://www.cbsnews.com/dfw/news/arlington-unity-council-names-new-chief-equity-officer/?intcid=CNM-00-10abd1h>
- May 2022 *Fort Worth Star-Telegram*, “In North Texas School Board Races, Candidates Campaign on Christianity and Conservatism.”  
[www.star-telegram.com/news/local/education/article260905407.html](https://www.star-telegram.com/news/local/education/article260905407.html)

June 2020— November 2021	Asked by the City of Fort Worth to chair a six-member “Panel of Experts” that conducted a week-long community workshop on the possibility of developing a museum or cultural center of African American history. Some topics to be decided include the location of the museum or cultural center, whether it should include a restaurant or jazz club, the institution’s overall themes and specific local topics to be featured. Developed a survey and analyzed results for the City, lead several townhall discussions, conducted focus groups, in-depth interviews, delivered major presentations on the results as well as assisted in the submitting the final report to the City Manager’s Office.
November 2021— Present	Member, Black Advisory Council, which is a committee that regularly meets with Mayor Ross in aiming to “eliminate divisiveness and opening communication.”
August 2021— Present	Chair, Arlington Unity Council, which is a permanent task force comprised of nine members charged with studying racial and ethnic disparities in the City of Arlington. The standing committee is appointed for two years by the City Council and strives to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="475 961 1404 1176">1. Monitor the implementation of the recommendations of the Unity Council Report issued in February 2021, including monitoring City departmental equity and equality efforts; advance unity in the City through communication, education, and programming; and fulfill other actions and duties as may be necessary to carry out the functions of the Unity Council.</li> <li data-bbox="475 1182 1404 1360">2. Make additional recommendations to the City Council to promote equity and equality in the City; to eliminate racism and other forms of discrimination; and to identify ways to support the needs of diverse communities, including but not limited to individuals with disabilities, LGBT individuals, and senior or aging individuals.</li> <li data-bbox="475 1367 1404 1472">3. Promote equity progress through bi-annual updates to the City’s Chief Equity Officer and City Council, or as otherwise requested by the City Council, and at other City events and community meetings.</li> </ol>
March 2021	Moderated political forums sponsored by the Arlington chapter of the NAACP for candidates running for Mayor of Arlington and Arlington City Council.
February 2021	Presentation and submission of the “Unity Council Report” to Mayor Williams and the Arlington City Council. Our 132-page final report addressed five dimensions of racial and ethnic disparities: Economic Disparities, Health and Wellness, Education and Workforce Training, Housing, as well as Policing and Criminal Justice. It included 59 recommendations for closing racial and ethnic gaps in these areas. Many

of these recommendations have already been implemented, and the Unity Council is now a permanent standing committee in the City of Arlington that reports to the Mayor. Arlington, TX.

[https://arlingtontx.gov/UserFiles/Servers/Server\\_14481062/File/City%20Hall/Government/Mayor/Unity\\_Council/Unity\\_Council\\_Report.pdf](https://arlingtontx.gov/UserFiles/Servers/Server_14481062/File/City%20Hall/Government/Mayor/Unity_Council/Unity_Council_Report.pdf)

- January 2021 Moderated candidate forums sponsored by the Arlington chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. for candidates running for District Director of the Texas Council of Alpha Chapters.
- October 2020 Moderated national forum titled “The Importance of Voting: A College Brother Conversation” for Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.—the first and most influential African American college fraternity.
- October 2020 Interview with *USA Today* on white evangelicals’ support for Donald Trump (“Trump delivered his SCOTUS promise, but his pandemic response cost him support among Christians”).  
<https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/investigations/2020/10/19/trump-delivered-scotus-but-coronavirus-cost-him-christian-support/3713456001/>
- October 2020 Moderated a major “Community Roundtable” for the City of Fort Worth on policy and programmatic changes that have been made in the year since Atatiana Jefferson’s death. Nine panelists (including the Mayor, members of City Council, local activists, and members of Atatiana’s family) participated in this highly contentious discussion.
- October 2020 Moderated political forums sponsored by the Arlington chapter of the NAACP for candidates running for Arlington City Council and Tarrant County Tax Assessor.
- September 2020 Moderated political forums sponsored by the Arlington chapter of the NAACP for candidates running for Arlington City Council and Tarrant County Sheriff.
- September 2020 Interview with NBC5 DFW about the Arlington Unity Council.  
<https://nam05.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.nbcdfw.com%2Fnews%2Fcall-for-change%2Fcommunity-conversations-arlingtons-unity-council%2F2438542%2F&data=01%7C01%7Cjeshelton%40uta.edu%7C9527719aa0e94122978408d8532f5c05%7C5cdc5b43d7be4caa8173729e3b0a62d9%7C1&sd=1&sd=1&sdata=f3hmMOja7451NArSSn%2BvOCMTG5sncNzCBDeR9WrOaU0%3D&reserved=0>
- August 2020 Interview with NBC5 DFW about Joe Biden’s selection of Senator Kamala Harris as his Vice Presidential running mate.  
<http://mms.tveyes.com/MediaView/?c3Rh dGlvbj0xNDc1JIN0YXJ0RGF0ZVRpbWU9MDgIMmYxMiUyZjIwMjArMDQIM2EzMmUzYTEyJkVuZ>

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GlnaGxpZ2h0cmVnZXg9JTVjYnNvY2lvaG9neSU1Y2ImbW9kZWRpd  
G9yZW5hYmxlPXRydWUmbW9kZWRpdG9yZGVzdGluYXRpb25zPT  
QmJmV4cGlyYXRpb249MDklMmYxMSUyZjIwMjArMDQIM2EzMiUz  
YTEyLjAwMCZpbmN0YW50UGxheT1UcnVlJnNpZ25hdHVyZT11M2N  
jMTRIMDE0YmY4YWExOTU3NDA1NjdhYTJlZDU2MQ==](https://www.aramericanjewishcommittee.org/dallas/2020/08/06/moderated-the-dallas-chapter-of-the-american-jewish-committee-s-panel-the-roots-of-racism-in-dallas-changing-our-future-begins-with-learning-from-our-past-dallas-tx/)

- August 2020 Moderated the Dallas chapter of the American Jewish Committee’s panel, “The Roots of Racism in Dallas: Changing Our Future Begins with Learning From Our Past.” Dallas, TX.
- August 2020 Interview with NewsBreak about the Arlington Unity Council (“UTA Professor Leads City of Arlington’s Unity Council”).  
<https://www.newsbreak.com/news/1613963424055/uta-professor-leads-city-of-arlingtons-unity-council?s=oldSite&ss=i3>
- August 2020 Interview with KERA about the Arlington Unity Council (“Arlington Continues Conversation about Equity Through A New Council”).  
<https://www.keranews.org/post/arlington-continues-conversation-about-equity-through-new-unity-council>
- July 2020—  
February 2021 Asked by Mayor Jeff Williams to Chair the Arlington Unity Council, which is a special committee comprised of 30 residents created by the Arlington City Council to study racial and ethnic disparities in the City of Arlington. The Unity Council’s charge is to:
- Gather community input on the need to use equitable measures to build greater equality,
  - Study equity strategies that the City could implement to promote and encourage greater
  - Report to the City Council on their findings and recommendations, and
  - Create an equity plan which includes strategies to eliminate racism and other forms of discrimination to advance unity in Arlington.
- The Unity Council’s final report is due in February 2021. It must address racial and ethnic differences in economic disparities, health and wellness, education and workforce training, housing, as well as policing and criminal justice. The Unity Council’s research methodology includes both quantitative (e.g., analyses of various national and local data sources) and qualitative methods (e.g., in-depth interviews, focus groups, and townhall discussions).  
[https://arlingtontx.gov/city\\_hall/government/mayor/unity\\_council](https://arlingtontx.gov/city_hall/government/mayor/unity_council)

- June 2020 Interview with the *Fort Worth Star Telegram* on local protests inspired by George Floyd's death. ("Who Are Arlington's Protestors? This Rapper is Rallying City's Youth for Change").  
<https://www.star-telegram.com/news/local/arlington/article243469606.html/?12>
- June 2020 Interview with the *Dallas Observer* on increased interest in the Juneteenth holiday due to racial tensions surrounding George Floyd's death. ("With Juneteenth Approaching, Calls for Racial Equality Continue").  
<https://www.dallasobserver.com/news/as-juneteenth-approaches-in-dallas-the-call-for-racial-equality-continues-11919179>
- June 2020 Interview with the *Dallas Morning News* on the protest organized by UTA's School of Social Work on circumstances surrounding George Floyd's death, as well as the consequences of civil disobedience and rioting across the US that was inspired by his passing. ("UT Arlington Hosts Protest Against Police Brutality Following a Week of Demonstrations in the City.")  
<https://www.dallasnews.com/news/2020/06/08/ut-arlington-hosts-protest-against-police-brutality-following-a-week-of-demonstrations-in-the-city/>
- June 2020 Interview with CBS11 (KTVT) on circumstances surrounding George Floyd's death, as well as the consequences of civil disobedience and rioting across the US that was inspired by his passing. ("Race, Rage, Healing and Where We Go From Here")  
<https://dfw.cbslocal.com/video/4577269-cbsn-dfw-zoom-town-hall-race-rage-healing-and-where-we-go-from-here/>
- May 2020 Interview with CBS11 (KTVT) on circumstances surrounding George Floyd's death, as well as the consequences of civil disobedience and rioting across the US that was inspired by his passing. ("George Floyd's Death Resonating in North Texas")  
<https://dfw.cbslocal.com/video/4570820-george-floyds-death-resonating-in-north-texas/>
- February 2020 *Fort Worth Star-Telegram*, "UT Arlington Graduates Most African Americans of Any University in Texas, Report Says."  
<https://www.star-telegram.com/news/local/education/article239815208.html>
- February 2020 *Arlington Today*, "A National Leader in Diversity," (pg. 11).
- November 2019 *Christianity Today* (the largest and most influential Christian magazine in the United States), "Why Black Protestants and Evangelicals Still Preach Politics."

<https://www.christianitytoday.com/news/2019/november/evangelicals-black-church-religion-in-politics-pew-survey.html>

- June 2019 Master of Ceremony for the Black & Gold Ball sponsored by Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Nu Pi Lambda Chapter. This important event is a scholarship fundraiser for graduates of the Alpha Ambassador Program that will be attending college.
- March 2019 Moderated political forums sponsored by the Arlington chapter of the NAACP for candidates running for Mayor and City Council in the City of Arlington, Texas. The former panel included four candidates (including the incumbent), the latter panel included 14 new candidates due to Arlington's new legislation on term limits.
- January 2019 *Christianity Today* (the largest and most influential Christian magazine in the United States), "Who Counts? How to Rightly Divide American Christianity: The Academy's Debate of Black Church Differences Is More Than a Numbers Game", (pgs. 60-65).  
<https://www.christianitytoday.com/ct/2019/january-february/differences-between-black-christians-white-evangelicals.html>
- January 2019 ANoviceJournalist.com, "Where Are The Members of the Black Church Heading?"  
<https://anovicejournalist.com/black-church>
- October 2018 Moderated a panel discussion on "Taking A Knee: The Conversation Continues" for the 2018 Area Work Day Conference sponsored by the South Central Region for Jack and Jill of America, Inc. Panelists included a Texas State Senator, two former NFL players, the President of a local chapter of the NAACP, and the National President of Jack and Jill's Father Auxiliary. Grapevine, Texas.
- April 2018 Assisted Texas State Representative Chris Turner's Office in drafting language that appears on a plaque that honors Ms. Rosa Parks, one of the legends of the Civil Rights Movement. This plaque is located in two places on side-roads in Southeast Tarrant County near highway 360, a portion of which is for her.
- February 2018 Moderated a political forum sponsored by the Arlington chapter of the NAACP for candidates running for the open seat in Texas' 6<sup>th</sup> Congressional District. (This seat was previously held by US Representative Joe Barton for 33 years.) The panel included 10 candidates, five Democrats and five Republicans.
- November 2017 Moderated a panel discussion on "Equity and Freedom's Footprint in Dallas Freedman's Towns" for the annual David Dillon Symposium. This

event was held at Paul Quinn College (College of Architecture, Planning, and Public Affairs, University of Texas at Arlington).

- October 2017 Organized the Center for African American Studies (CAAS) “6<sup>th</sup> Annual Opening Lecture” which featured Congressman Jim Clyburn (D-South Carolina), who is arguably the highest-ranking African American politician in the United States. This event was attended by two additional members of Congress (Rep. Eddie Bernice Johnson and Rep. Marc Veasey), as well as State Representative Chris Turner, Michael Glaspie of the Arlington City Council, and many business and community leaders across the Metroplex.
- August 2016 Focus Group Participant invited to provide feedback on the Fort Worth Independent School District’s (FW ISD) “Racial Equity Policy.” (Tarrant County Community College, Trinity River Campus)
- October 2015 Ozy.com (a USA Today affiliate), “How [Ben] Carson’s Come-To-Jesus Moment Could Make Him President.”  
<http://www.ozy.com/fast-forward/how-carsons-come-to-jesus-moment-could-make-him-president/64955>
- June 2015 Panelist for KERA’s (National Public Radio) popular show, “Think with Krys Boyd” on the controversy over Rachel Dolezal (a white woman who was “passing” as black), politics surrounding the Confederate flag, and assimilation in the US.
- November 2014 Interview with CBS11 (KTVT) on the race riots in Ferguson, Missouri.
- September 2014 Provided a “blurb” for Rowman & Littlefield’s forthcoming book *So Many Christians, So Few Lions: Is There Christianophobia in the United States?* by George Yancey and David Williamson.
- April 2014 Interview with NBC 5 (KXAS DFW) on the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the signing of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.
- April 2014 Appearance in Emmanuel Amido’s documentary film, “But For The Grace,” which addresses race relations among Christians. It debuted in November 2015 at the Independent Memphis Film Festival.
- August 2013 National Public Radio (NPR) featured “Source of the Week.” Every Monday, NPR sends out a mass email to more than 200 subscribers and affiliates with several attachments including a profile picture, a substantive description of the “the source’s” areas of expertise, and contact information.  
<https://sources.npr.org/lastname/s/>

- July 20, 2013 Live interview with NBC 5 (KXAS DFW) on President Obama's statement about racial profiling and blacks' response to Zimmerman verdict.
- May 12, 2013 *Black Christian News Network One*, "Membership in the Black Church Holds Strong."  
<http://www.blackchristiannews.com/news/2013/05/membership-in-the-black-church-holds-strong.html?&co=f00000009816s-1158206718>
- May 5, 2013 *Journal and Courier* (Lafayette, IN), "Cultural, Historical Factors Help Keep Black Churches Steady."
- January 23, 2013 Guest appearance on "The God Show with Pat McMahon" (News/Talk 92.3 KTAR, Phoenix).
- October 14, 2012 Live interview with Fox 4 News (KDFW-TV) on changing religious affiliations in the US, as well as to profile my book *Blacks and Whites in Christian America*.
- July 26, 2012 *USA Today*, "Hemsley Got a Piece of the Pie, and a Place in History."  
[http://usatoday30.usatoday.com/LIFE/usaedition/2012-07-26-Sherman-Hemsley-obit\\_ST\\_U.htm](http://usatoday30.usatoday.com/LIFE/usaedition/2012-07-26-Sherman-Hemsley-obit_ST_U.htm)
- May 31, 2012 *Chicago Tribune*, "Tribune Voices: Blacks' Views on Gay Marriage Evolving."  
[http://articles.chicagotribune.com/2012-05-31/news/ct-talk-glanton-gay-marriage-20120531\\_1\\_gay-marriage-gay-friends-and-relatives-black-church](http://articles.chicagotribune.com/2012-05-31/news/ct-talk-glanton-gay-marriage-20120531_1_gay-marriage-gay-friends-and-relatives-black-church)
- March 30, 2012 NBC DFW (KXAS-TV), for helping to organize and facilitate a focus group on race relations in the DFW Metroplex. My undergraduate students and I were featured in various segments of a program that aired several times during late Spring/Summer 2012.  
<http://www.nbcdfw.com/news/local/Why-Discuss-Race-In-DFW-156621735.html>
- March 27, 2012 *Fort Worth Star-Telegram*, "Activists young and old march for Trayvon Martin at UTA."
- March 27, 2012 *Dallas Observer*, "UT Arlington Students march for Trayvon Martin, demand Gunman's Arrest."
- March 26, 2012 NBC DFW (KXAS-TV) for an interview on racial tensions surrounding the killing of Trayvon Martin.

- March 26, 2012 CBS DFW (KTVT) for an interview on racial tensions surrounding the killing of Trayvon Martin.
- December 18, 2011 *Dallas Morning News*, “Ornamental Christmas: You don’t have to believe to get caught up in the holiday spirit.”
- July 30, 2011 *Fort Worth Star-Telegram*, “Faith of their fathers: Wide Range of cultures have houses of worship in Northeast Tarrant.”
- September 2010 *The Shorthorn*, “Professor recognized for involvement in student’s race, poverty project.”
- August 2010 Interview with Michael Buchanan, a reporter with the British Broadcasting Company (BBC).
- January 2010 Interview on Bill O’Neil, a reporter with NewsRadio 740 KTRH (Houston).
- September 2009 Interview on Voice of America with Greg Flakus concerning findings from the *Social Science Quarterly* article and op-ed in the *Houston Chronicle*.
- August 28, 2009 *Houston Chronicle*, published my op-ed on racial solidarity, immigration, fallout from Hurricane Katrina (“Katrina evacuees finding limits to our hospitality.”)
- <http://www.chron.com/opinion/outlook/article/Katrina-evacuees-finding-limits-to-our-hospitality-1731721.php>
- August 8, 2009 *Houston Chronicle*, “Study links immigration and evacuee fears: Worries over ‘strangers’ seen in Katrina exodus.”
- <http://www.chron.com/news/houston-texas/article/Study-links-immigration-and-evacuee-fears-1726290.php>
- August 2006 Guest Appearance on “Interchange” (90.1 FM KPFT Houston).

### **PRESENTATIONS AT PROFESSIONAL CONFERENCES**

Shelton, Jason E. November 2022. “Do Social Scientists of Religion Have an Obligation to the Communities in which they Study?” Panel discussion to take place during the annual meeting of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion. Baltimore, MD.

Shelton, Jason E. August 2022. "Black Religion and Black Politics." Paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Sociological Association (ASA). Los Angeles, CA.

Shelton, Jason E. August 2022. "The Links between Antipathy for Conservative Christians and Beliefs about Racial Inequality among Better-Educated Whites." Paper presented at the annual meeting of Association for the Sociology of Religion (ASR). Los Angeles, CA.

Shelton, Jason E. November 2021. "Guidelines and Suggestions for Publishing Books and Articles." Panelist for a Professional Development Panel during the annual meeting of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion (SSSR). Portland, OR.

Shelton, Jason E. August 2020. "Spirituality among African Americans: Inter-racial and Intra-racial Differences across Followers of Various Religious Traditions." Paper accepted to be presented at the annual meeting of the American Sociological Association although the conference was cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Shelton, Jason E. October 2019. "Religion, Race, and Politics Across the Disciplines." Speech delivered during a Presidential Panel during the annual meeting of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion. St. Louis, MO.

Shelton, Jason E. April 2019. "Spirituality among African Americans: Inter-racial and Intra-racial Differences across Followers of Various Religious Traditions." Paper presented at the Social Dimensions of Spirituality Conference sponsored by Indiana University Consortium for the Study of Religion, Ethics, and Society. This conference featured a select group of leading scholars who were asked to submit papers to be published in an edited volume that generally examine "contemporary spirituality."

Shelton, Jason E. April 2019. "Changes in Middle Class Blacks' Beliefs about Racial Inequality and Affirmative Action, 1985-2016." Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Southern Sociological Society. Atlanta, GA.

Shelton, Jason. August 2017. Organized and presided over a special Presidential Panel on "Religious Dividing Lines: Race, Class, and Immigration" held during a joint session of the annual meetings of the Association for the Sociology of Religion (ASR) and the American Sociological Association (ASA). Montreal, Canada.

Shelton, Jason. August 2017. "Social Class, Religious Affiliations, and Religious Sensibilities among African Americans." Paper presented during a special Presidential Panel held during a joint session of the annual ASR and ASA meetings. Montreal, Canada.

Shelton, Jason and Ryon J. Cobb. August 2017. "Black Reltrad: The Measure for Testing Religious Diversity and Commonality among African Americans." Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Association of Black Sociologists. Montreal, Canada.

Shelton, Jason E. April 2017. "Culture as an Attribution for Racial Inequality." Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Southern Sociological Association. Greenville, SC.

Shelton, Jason E., Curtis Brown, and Dante Bryant. August 2016. "We, As a People? Assessing the Consequences of Various Sources of Diversity among African Americans." Paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Sociological Association. Seattle, WA.

Shelton, Jason E., Dante Bryant, and Curtis Brown. February 2016. "Is Black America 'Disintegrating'? How Class Position, Age Cohort, and Immigrant Generation Shape Commitments to Racial Solidarity." Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Southern Conference on African American Studies. Charleston, SC.

Greene, Anthony and Jason E. Shelton. June 2015. "No Fault of Their Own? Beliefs about the Causes of Racial Inequality among American Blacks, West Indians, and African Immigrants." Paper presented at the annual meeting of the National Association for African American Studies (Eastern Regional Conference). Tampa, FL.

Shelton, Jason. August 2014. Organized and presided over a session on "Religion and Racial/Ethnic Inequality" for the annual meeting of the American Sociological Association. San Francisco, CA.

Shelton, Jason and Michael O. Emerson. August 2013. "Authors Meet Critics Session for *Blacks and Whites in Christian America*" at the annual meeting of the Association for the Sociology of Religion. New York, NY.

Shelton, Jason and Michael O. Emerson. February 2013. "Why Do African Americans Pray So Often?" Featured presentation on our book, *Blacks and Whites in Christian America*, at the annual meeting of the Southern Conference on African American Studies, Inc. Tallahassee, FL.

Shelton, Jason E. August 2012. "Melting Into the Mainstream: Privileged Blacks' Beliefs about Racial Inequality." Paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Sociological Association. Denver, CO.

Shelton, Jason E. and Anthony D. Greene. February 2012. "Get Up, Get Out, & Git Sumthin': How Race and Class Influence African Americans' Attitudes about Inequality." Revised paper presented at the annual meeting of the Southern Conference on African American Studies, Inc.. Houston, TX.

Shelton, Jason and Michael O. Emerson. August 2011. "Far-Reaching Faith: Evidence of an Inclusive Religious Doctrine among African Americans." Paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Sociological Association. Las Vegas, NV.

Shelton, Jason E. and Anthony D. Greene. August 2011. "Get Up & Get Out: How Race and Class Influence African Americans' Attitudes about Inequality." Paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Sociological Association. Las Vegas, NV.

Shelton, Jason and Michael O. Emerson. April 2011. "Why do African Americans Pray So Often?" Revised paper presented at the *Race and Power Mini-Conference*, a subsection of the annual meeting of the Southern Sociological Society. Jacksonville, FL.

Shelton, Jason and Michael O. Emerson. February 2011. "Why do African Americans Pray So Often?" Revised paper presented at the annual meeting of the Southern Conference on African American Studies, Inc. Dallas, TX.

Shelton, Jason and Michael O. Emerson. October 2009. "Why do African Americans Pray So Often?" Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion. Denver, CO.

Shelton, Jason. August 2009. "After the Storm: How Race, Class, and Immigration Concerns Influenced Beliefs about the Katrina Evacuees." Paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Sociological Association. San Francisco, CA.

Shelton, Jason. August 2008. "Where Do We Go From Here? How Class Position and Culture Influence Beliefs about Strategies for Achieving Racial Progress." Paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Sociological Association. Boston, MA.

Coleman, M. Nicole and Jason E. Shelton. April 2008. "It's Time for Them to Go: How Racial Factors and Immigration Issues Influence Beliefs about Hurricane Katrina Evacuees." Paper presented at the Annual Intercultural Communications Conference at Texas Southern University. Houston, Texas.

Shelton, Jason. August 2007. "Are We Really a Melting Pot? How Religion and Race Differences Impact Beliefs about the American Nationality." Paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Sociological Association. New York, NY.

Shelton, Jason. April 2007. "The Investment in Blackness Hypothesis: Toward Greater Understanding of Who Teaches What During Racial Socialization." Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Southern Sociological Society. Atlanta, GA.

Shelton, Jason. August 2006. "Race, Class, and Support for Redistributive Policy." Paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Sociological Association. Montreal, Canada.

Shelton, Jason. April 2006. "The Impact of Race, Religion, and Social Class on the American Nationality." Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Midwest Sociological Society. Omaha, NE.

Shelton, Jason. April 2000. "The Structural Determinants of Racial Ideology: A Test of Three Perspectives." Paper presented at the annual meeting of The Southern Sociological Society. New Orleans, LA.

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