

# ALABAMA STATE UNIVERSITY COUNSELOR GAZETTE

VOLUME 3 | SPRING 2025



## THE COUNSELOR EDUCATION PROGRAM

is committed to the education of aspiring helping professionals such as clinical mental health counselors and school counselors. Professors equip and empower high achieving students to be successful in their future careers through the curriculum and hands-on assistance every semester. Students are privileged to have some of the best and brightest scholars to grace Alabama State's campus!

# ALABAMA STATE UNIVERSITY COUNSELOR GAZETTE

## FACULTY SPOTLIGHT



**DR. LINDA J. M. HOLLOWAY**  
Ed.D., NCC  
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR  
PROGRAM COORDINATOR

Dr. Linda J.M. Holloway has been a faculty member at Alabama State University since 2018. She is an author, story activist, and spoken word artist. Dr. Holloway has served in the role of Program Coordinator for the master's programs in counseling from 2018, where she made several noteworthy contributions. Her areas of research include Black women and mental wellness, and career counseling for underserved and marginalized populations. In her spare time, Dr. Holloway enjoys spending time with family, friends, catching a good movie, and doing absolutely nothing.

## A STORY ACTIVIST

### IN AN INTERVIEW WITH DR. HOLLOWAY,

the term “story activist” arose, and she shared with me that it was a term that she coined. It is a term meant to amplify the diminished voices of marginalized individuals and reach the community through storybook activism and outreach. The way Dr. Holloway chooses to reach others is through stories she writes. As an accomplished author, she has published eight award-winning children’s books, and many of them have been as a means of activism and her two campaigns. One of her campaigns, the Anti-Bully Hair campaign, centers around her book *I Love My Happy Hair*. It is intentionally purposed to both combat the bullying and negative narratives surrounding Black hair and teach kids to love their hair! Behind this mission of empowerment is the fight against low childhood literacy rates. Dr. Holloway is a firm believer that along with literacy with books, children should be socially and emotionally literate as well. It is important to her that children be able to express themselves. This belief is the reason why Dr. Holloway has two new books on death and divorce titled *Little Miss Linda Copes with Divorce* and *Little Miss Linda Speaks out About Death*. They may not be able to talk about their own lived experiences, but they may be able to talk about a character with an experience similar to theirs. By identifying themselves within a book, children are able to gain language and tools to communicate their emotions.

As a story activist, she is not just concerned about the literacy of children in her community. She is also mindful of children around the world! As apart of her campaign, Books Without Borders, Dr. Holloway has gifted hundreds of copies of her books to children across seas including the country of South Africa! Dr. Holloway grew up with her own books and fell in love with reading as a young child. So, she values children having at least one book as their own to feel, read, and keep. Her sentiments are rooted in the fact that there is a digital divide. Some children do not have access to a library or even the internet. Thus, it is a pleasure of hers to donate her books to children overseas on an annual basis. There is so much to be shared about Dr. Holloway from her *Classroom Without Walls* teaching philosophy, to her *Riverboat Curriculum Study Guide* and bibliotherapy counseling approach. Even with all of her accomplishments, there is still so much on the horizon for her! Thank you Dr. Holloway for all that you do for our counseling programs, community, and the world at large!

# ALABAMA STATE UNIVERSITY

## COUNSELOR GAZETTE

### CORE FACULTY



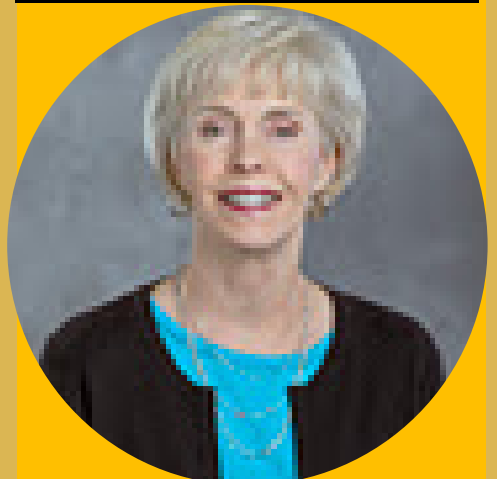
**Dr. Juanita Barnett**  
Ph.D., LPC, NCC  
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR  
FACULTY ADVISOR - CESA  
CACREP LIAISON



**Dr. LaWanda Edwards**  
Ph.D., NCC  
PROFESSOR  
SCHOOL COUNSELING  
INTERNSHIP COORDINATOR



**Dr. LINDA J. M. HOLLOWAY**  
Ed.D., NCC  
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR  
PROGRAM COORDINATOR



**Dr. Jeane B Lee**  
Ph.D., LPC-S  
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR  
CLINICAL MENTAL HEALTH  
INTERNSHIP COORDINATOR

# ALABAMA STATE UNIVERSITY COUNSELOR GAZETTE

## THE COUNSELING DEPARTMENT WELCOMES

### FALL 2022 SPR 2023

Jaelyn Lay  
John Mills  
Destiny Mungin

Raven Baker  
Audrey Clay  
Lakita Davis  
Jada Farr  
Savannah Karl  
Kerrigan Phillips  
Pamella Robinson  
Cierra Young

## THE COUNSELING DEPARTMENT CONGRATULATES

### CLINICAL MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELING - MS



May 2022 -

Andramyra Lewis  
Angela Foster  
Kristi James

August 2022 -

Loretta Scott-Hatchett

December 2022 -

Delisa Dandridge

May 2023 -

Jaelynd Donegan  
Jaleesa Robinson  
Noel Sims  
Teleshia Washington  
Jayla Wells

### SCHOOL COUNSELING - M. Ed

December 2023 -

December 2024 -

### FALL 2023

Latricia Arnold  
Javrey Benjamin  
Kearra Cooper  
Stephanie Da Silva  
Brady Donnelly  
Torres Hanson  
Adrianne Richard  
Jaurel Rogers  
Kristan Shaw  
Aniyah Smith  
Kornika Todd  
Jataiyolr Whitaker

### SPR 2024

Langston Carter  
Sabrina Edwards  
Darian Howell  
Tiana Kirk  
Valandra Lee  
Tari McClung  
Brandon Petite  
Jasmine S. Nelson  
Antquanitta Wells  
Darel Young

### FALL 2024

Eyanna Bell  
Jada Finley  
Joanna Hamer  
Reletta McGhee  
Gem Richardson  
Demitrius Simmons  
Jennifer Stacks  
Qresiyuna Swift  
Miranda Terry  
Avery Towns  
Keisha Tyson

### CLINICAL MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELING - MS

December 2023 -

Willie McCloud  
Kierra Collins  
Brittney Robinson

May 2024 -

Clarence Covington  
Kyana Evans

December 2024 -

Thomas Duff  
Daisha Smith  
Brandi Kemp

Jazmine Davis  
Daisha Smith  
Katie Gullion



# ALABAMA STATE UNIVERSITY COUNSELOR GAZETTE

## THE 2024 ALABAMA COUNSELING ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE

The ALCA conference was held in Montgomery at the Renaissance Spa and Hotel where nearly a dozen students were afforded the opportunity to attend for the first time through the Mental Health Service Professional Grant Program (MHSP)!



The Counseling Department would like to recognize Dr. Juanita Barnett for both hosting and being awarded multiple awards at the Breakfast Banquet



# ALABAMA STATE UNIVERSITY COUNSELOR GAZETTE

## CONFERENCE TRIPS

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This past year, the Counselor Education Programs through the Mental Health Service Professional Grant (MHSP) was able to send seven students to their first American Counseling Association conference in Orlando.



A few students received the pleasure of both hearing from and meeting Dr. Tommie Mabry. Dr. Mabry shared his incredible story of overcoming childhood challenges of childhood arrests and expulsions to being a prolific keynote speaker, best-selling author, incredibly educated teacher. He truly inspired all who heard his story!



Four graduate students along with Dr. Juanita Barnett got the opportunity to meet the Senior Vice President of the Sesame Street Workshop, Dr. Jeanette Betancourt. Dr. Betancourt presented a lively presentation on how the Sesame Workshop behind Sesame Street has made a global impact on nourishing the wellbeing of young children.



The American Counseling Association conference was full of incredibly informative workshops and sessions and full of fun and engaging expo hall events. Those events included puppy therapy, caricature artists, wellness and headshot lounges, and many valued exhibitors.



# ALABAMA STATE UNIVERSITY COUNSELOR GAZETTE



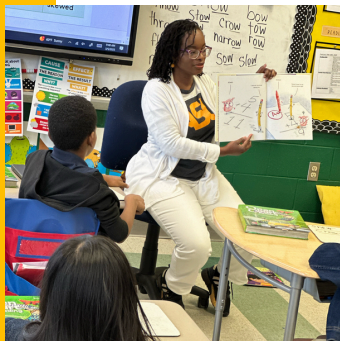
Masters student Eyanna Bell read to a classroom of eighth graders at Bessemer City Middle School a book called Eli's Lie-o-Meter by Sandra Levins

## COMMUNITY OUTREACH

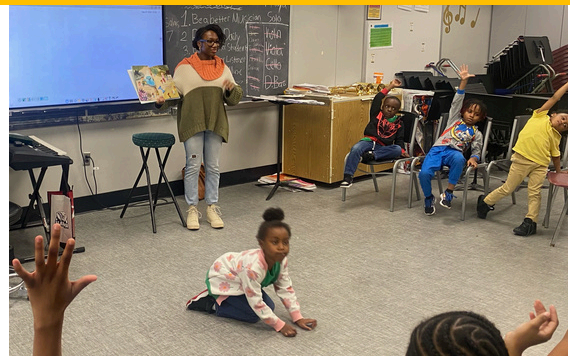
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The Counseling Program's investment in the community is not just within the ASU community but entire United States!

In March 2025, we celebrated Read Across America week!



Dr. Barnett got in on the reading fun and read 3 books in total at both E.D. Nixon Elementary School and Lead Academy!



Clinical Mental Health Counseling student, Jada Finley read two books to kindergartners at Carver Elementary Arts Magnet School in Montgomery.



School Counseling student Reletta McGhee read It's Not Easy Being A Bunny by Dr. Seuss to a room full of littles at HeadStart in Fort Deposit.



Gloria Burney, a School Counseling student, read two books at three schools in her Adamsville area.



# ALABAMA STATE UNIVERSITY COUNSELOR GAZETTE



N'Keya Boone-Peterman, our mental health advocate and guest speaker shared a thorough presentation on prioritizing self-care without guilt. She encouraged us all to not see self-care as selfish but simply as fuel to be selfless.



Dr. Nicole Thompson spoke on the power of a pivot. She emphasized the importance of betting on yourself, especially when you are a multi-talented, multi-passionate, and multi-purposed person. One of her final tips included to reject shame when you pivot. Pivot in peace!



Cory Johnson is a man who built his wealth after many years of entrepreneurship. He spoke of what it looks like to utilize your resources to navigate the business world. He credits his success to God and a biblical principle that speaks on going the extra mile for a person in need.



Funmi Ford (@funmiford) is a six-figure influencer who talked about branding and marketing your business on social media. She went in depth on the value of consistency in branding across platforms, finding your voice, identifying your audience, and posting your unique content!

Women in Ministry International was the co-host for this great expo. They had a lovely table full of merchandise! WIMI even gifted one lucky winner a bag full of books, t-shirts, a journals, and a mug! We are so grateful to have been able to host with WIMI.



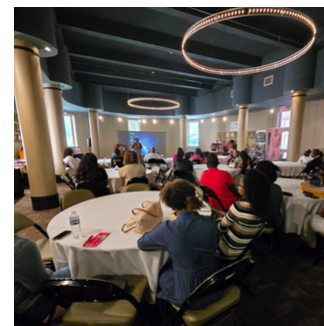
## COMMUNITY OUTREACH

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In April 2025, we cohosted a Business and Mental Health expo with Women in Ministry International (WIMI)!



Full of ASU COE and GEAR UP gifts like a blanket, drone, water bottle, thermos, and much more all held in a multi-purposed chalkboard basket. This basket was gifted to a lucky winner in the audience. Thank you to the ASU COE for the amazing goodies!



The CESA and WIMI Business and Mental Health expo had a great turn out! Both vendors and guest praised the event and exposure to such great business wisdom and amazing vendors. They look forward to attending our next business and mental health expo!



Dr. Juanita Barnett and CMHC master student, Jada Finley represented the ASU counseling program. Our table held information about the counseling program, the MHSP Grant, and various mental health resources in Montgomery and across Alabama.



# ALABAMA STATE UNIVERSITY COUNSELOR GAZETTE

## COMMUNITY OUTREACH

The Counseling Program's investment in the community is not just a recent occurrence.

Community outreach has been constant within the program over many years.



In 2022, CESA, had the privilege of donating 48 blankets and 5 bears to Child Protect Montgomery on December 16.

Join The Counselor Education Student Association for...

**"SO YOU'RE GRADUATING...  
NOW WHAT?"**

A VIRTUAL PROFESSIONAL WORKSHOP

Join CESA as we discuss navigating the counseling profession after graduation. What to expect and how to proceed following graduation. Cover letters, resumes, the job search process, the counselor examination, the licensure process, and other topics will be covered. There will also be a question and answer session!

**CO-PRESENTER**  
Dr. Juanita Barnett  
Alabama State University  
Assistant Professor  
Faculty Advisor (CESA)

**CO-PRESENTER**  
Mrs. Kimberly Boyd  
Cassel University Doctoral Student  
ASU CMHC Student Alum

CESA, in 2023, hosted a virtual discussion on next steps information for graduate students unsure on what's next for them.

**Cesa Presents**  
QPR TRAINING

Tuesday, April 2, 2024  
5:30-7:00pm

Hosted By: Cheryl  
Dodson, ASPARC

Google Meet joining info  
Video call link:  
<https://meet.google.com/zau-dpaw-zod>  
Or dial: (US) +1 347-396-1768 PIN: 606 576 532#

In 2024, CESA through ASPARC provided a virtual opportunity for QPR Suicide Prevention Training for the Counseling program's graduate students.

Go hornets!

**ASU News!**

ASU CESA donated 52 cases of water to Friendship Mission. They said it was their largest donation received!

CESA hosted an incredibly successful water drive in donation to Friendship Mission.

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## COMMUNITY OUTREACH

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## CESA Community Service ♥

MARCH 11, 2023  
1:30 PM- 3:00PM

Meet & Greet + Bingo

Join us as we mingle with the residents of Capitol Hill Healthcare and play a few rousing rounds of Bingo!

Capitol Hill Healthcare 📍  
520 S Hull St, Montgomery, AL  
36104

For more information contact CESA President Jayla Wells at 251-321-6212



CESA President Jayla Wells introduces herself and CESA and gets everyone ready for a fun game of BINGO!



Two residents won both BINGO and a prize from CESA!



# A WORD FROM OUR GRADUATES



**Jazmine D. Thompson**  
MS  
DECEMBER 2023 GRADUATE  
11<sup>TH</sup> GRADE COUNSELOR  
JOHNSON ABERNATHY GRAETZ  
HIGH SCHOOL

“Earning my Master’s in School Counseling from Alabama State University was a transformative experience that profoundly shaped my approach to education and student support. The program provided a strong foundation in theory and practice, guided by dedicated faculty who offered invaluable mentorship.”



**Patria Jackson**  
MS, ALC  
DECEMBER 2023 GRADUATE

“Pursuing a degree in Clinical Mental Health Counseling was more than an academic decision; it was a defining moment that charted the course of my life. Today, I work with children and adolescents in a counseling setting, and each day reminds me of the importance of early intervention, empathy, and creating a safe space for young minds to grow and heal. This work is not just my career; it’s my calling.”



**Jayla Wells**  
MS, ALC  
SPRING 2023 GRADUATE  
DOCTORAL STUDENT  
REGENT UNIVERSITY

The Clinical Mental Health program at Alabama State University, my degree has profoundly impacted my life. It provided me with a strong foundation that has enabled me to thrive and feel confident in my work as an associate-level counselor. I never felt as though I had to navigate this profession alone, even after graduation, because I’ve always had confidence in knowing that the professors remain accessible and willing to assist whenever needed. I am deeply grateful for the seeds planted during my time at Alabama State, as they have blossomed and continue to benefit me in my professional journey.



**Delisa Dandridge**  
MS  
FALL 2022 GRADUATE  
MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELOR  
CLEAR VISION COMMUNITY SERVICES

I graduated in the Fall of 2022. The journey wasn't easy at all but I stayed focused and pushed through.

# ALABAMA STATE UNIVERSITY COUNSELOR GAZETTE

## 2025 OUTSTANDING STUDENT OF THE YEAR

### CHOSEN BY FACULTY, DESTINY MUNGIN

is the 2025 Outstanding Student of the Year in the Clinical Mental Health Counseling Program! Destiny Mungin joined the CMHC program in the fall of 2022. Her decision was brought about after earning her Bachelor's degree in Psychology and taking a year off to reflect on her career aspirations. During that time, Destiny realized she had a strong desire to become a licensed therapist. This goal to become a therapist motivated her to enroll into the Clinical Mental Health Counseling program here at Alabama State University. Destiny is currently working as a Therapeutic Foster Care Coordinator at Gerogia Parent Support Network. Her current internship assignment is an Intern Therapist at Serenity Community Services. Destiny's ultimate career goal is to become a licensed therapist, specializing in the mental health field. She is committed to providing compassionate and effective therapeutic support, helping individuals navigate challenges and improve their overall well-being. Through continuous learning and practical experience, Destiny aims to contribute meaningfully to the mental health community.

Apart from her passion for mental health, Destiny enjoys spending time with her family and friends. She finds that spending time with her loved ones feels her with a sense of connection and fulfillment. She also enjoys traveling and spending time by the water to recharge and find balance. Above all, she is passionate about helping others and is always striving to be a supportive and compassionate listener to anyone in need.

Destiny is confident and excited about the journey ahead of her, and she is eager to see where her future in this fulfilling and compassionate field will take her. Lastly, Destiny expressed her sincere gratitude to the Counselor Education Program faculty, and everyone involved for this acknowledgment. Because of Destiny's great passion for mental health services, this recognition is a deep honor and means so much to her. Congratulations again to our 2025 Outstanding Student, Destiny Mungin!





# Join us in honoring the retirement of

## Dr. Jeane Lee

Thank you, Dr. Lee for your commitment to making sure all of your students learn and become the best counselors possible. You have set high expectations onto many counselors, and I pray that we uphold them in all things that we do. I wish you the best in your retirement season and I hope to stay connected with you

-Eyanna Bell

Dr. Lee,

Thank you for your contribution to the CMHC program at our beloved ASU.

During my time in the program you helped me to foster an improved level of professionalism, therapeutic intelligence, and preparation for the field of counseling. I will always be grateful for your passion for creating great counselors and dedication to the students who have been involved with our program. As you enter this new season of your life I wish you peace and blessings.

Happy Retirement,  
Ashley Cooks, LPC, NCC, CCTP

Dear Dr. Lee

As you step into retirement, I want to express my deepest gratitude for the extraordinary impact you've had on my academic journey and personal growth. You were far more than a professor to me; you were a mentor, a source of unwavering support, and a true advocate during one of the most challenging times in my life.

When I struggled to pass my exam, your willingness to go above and beyond did not go unnoticed. Your patience, encouragement, and dedication gave me the strength to keep going, and for that, I will always be thankful. Your belief in me made all the difference, and I truly would not be where I am today without your guidance.

Your legacy extends far beyond the classroom, and I feel honored to have been one of your students. Wishing you a retirement filled with the same generosity and warmth you have shared with so many.

With sincere appreciation,  
Patria Jackson, MS, ALC (Fall '23)

Dr. Lee's teaching, guidance, and words of wisdom continue to resonate with me. I often find myself reaching into my 'toolbox' of knowledge and wisdom that Dr. Lee so generously and passionately shared, which has deeply enriched my work. You have been an incredible cornerstone of the program, Dr. Lee. It was both an honor and a privilege to learn from you. May God continue to bless everything you put your heart into. Your impact on me, both as a professional and as a person, will last a lifetime.

Enjoy your well-deserved retirement to the fullest!

-Jayla Wells (Spring '23)



I just wanted to thank her so much for being a great professor! I've learned so much from her and I'll cherish it for a lifetime! I wish her the best on her retirement!

-Monisha Ramsey

Dr. Lee,

I have enjoyed taking your classes. Thank you for always making yourself available to help the students in the counseling program.

Congratulations on your retirement!

-Reletta McGhee

I want to express my deepest gratitude for the profound impact you have had on my academic journey and my development as a counselor-in-training. Your guidance, wisdom, and unwavering support have shaped the counselor I'm becoming. Your dedication to the field of Clinical Mental Health Counseling, your commitment to excellence in education, and your unwavering support of your students have been nothing short of inspirational. I am saddened that you won't be there at graduation, but I thank you for being a mentor, an educator, and a true example of what it means to serve others through this meaningful work. I wish you a retirement filled with good health, peace, fulfillment, and well-deserved joy. Congratulations Dr. Lee and Happy Retirement!

-Kristan Shaw

Dear Dr. Lee,

Congratulations on your well-deserved retirement! Your guidance, wisdom, and unwavering support have left a lasting impact on so many of us. I am incredibly grateful for the knowledge and encouragement you shared throughout my time in the program. Your dedication to students and passion for counseling have truly made a difference. Wishing you joy, relaxation, and fulfillment in this next chapter—you will be deeply missed!

With heartfelt appreciation,  
-Jasmine Davis Thompson (Fall '23)



# ALABAMA STATE UNIVERSITY COUNSELOR GAZETTE



## GRADUATE ASSISTANT & NEWSLETTER EDITOR JADA FINLEY

Jada Finley is an alumna of Vanderbilt University and first-year Clinical Mental Health Counseling masters student. Being the program's graduate assistant and newsletter editor, it has been her pleasure to interview such accomplished individuals and inspired her in numerous ways!

"This first year of graduate school has been more than I could have ever imagined!"



## THE COUNSELOR EDUCATION PROGRAM WOULD LIKE TO THANK THE ADVISORY BOARD FOR ALL OF THEIR SUPPORT IN ALL THAT WE DO!

Paul H. Brown, M.S.  
Shirley Carlisle, M.S., LPC-S  
Ashley Cooks, M.S., LPC, NCC, CCTP  
Scott D. Holmes, Psy.D., LPC-S,  
NCC, ICAADC, CCE

Latorya Hawthorne, M.A.  
Stephanie Nolan  
Monica Mack, Ph.D., LPC-S,  
NCC, ACS  
Amber Richardson, Ph.D., LPC,  
NCC