American Association of Blacks in Higher Education 2013 “Outstanding Doctoral Research” Award Recipients

1st Place—Edward Collins, University of Nevada, Las Vegas

Dr. Edward Collins is a post-doctoral researcher for the Cannon Survey Center at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. His work examines issues of college choice among students transitioning to undergraduate and graduate education. He earned his Ph.D. in higher educational leadership from the University of Nevada, Las Vegas.

Dr. Collins’ dissertation, “A Review of African American Graduate Student Choice,” quantitatively explores the impact of attending a Historically Black College or University on the decision for African Americans to pursue graduate studies.

2nd Place—Crystal J. Allen, Texas A&M University, College Station

Dr. Crystal J. Allen is an adjunct professor at Lone Star College. Her research interests include first-generation college graduates, college students on the autism spectrum and the education of the Black family. She earned her Ph.D. in educational administration from Texas A&M University, College Station.

Dr. Allen’s dissertation, “The Parental Investment of First-Generation African American Rural College Graduates in Cultivating College Student Success,” investigates the investment strategies and educational beliefs of college-educated rural families.

3rd Place—Sosanya Marie Jones, Teachers College, Columbia University

Dr. Sosanya Marie Jones is an assistant professor of qualitative methods in the Department of Educational Administration and Higher Education at Southern Illinois University, Carbondale. Her research interests include diversity leadership; the politics of diversity, access, retention, and equity policies, practices, and programs; and, international diversity and inclusion higher education policies and practices. She earned her Ed.D. in higher and postsecondary education at Teachers College, Columbia University.

Dr. Jones’ dissertation, “Diversity Leadership in Practice: Examining STEM Graduate School Preparation Leaders in Their Institutional Contexts,” examines the experiences of mid-level STEM graduate school preparation professionals at different institutional types.
4th Place—Marjorie L. Dorimé-Williams, *University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign*

Dr. Marjorie L. Dorimé-Williams is a research associate for the Center for Higher Education Research & Policy at The Ohio State University. Her research interests include identity intersectionality with a focus on race and class; access, persistence, and retention of Black students in post-secondary education; and, student support programming and evaluation. She earned her Ph.D. in educational policy, organization & leadership at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

Dr. Dorimé-Williams’ dissertation, “Understanding Socioeconomic Differences in the Relationships Between Black College Students’ Involvement and Educational Outcomes,” explores the relationships between socioeconomic status, collegiate involvement, and educational expectations of Black students at four-year public institutions, and how institutions can better serve students from diverse socioeconomic backgrounds.

**Honorable Mention**

Antoinetta M. Aubry, *Jackson State University*

Rhonda M. Fowler, *Texas A&M University, College Station*

Abdallah Ibrahim, *Morgan State University*

Donald Mitchell, Jr., *University of Minnesota, Twin Cities*

Chinasa Ordu, *Clemson University*

Quinita Ogletree, *Texas A&M University, College Station*

Taryn Ozuna, *University of Texas, Arlington*

Jarvis M. Watson, *Dowling College*

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