

Daphne G. Foster, PhD
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Education

- PHD in Urban and Regional Planning (12/2014) – Jackson State University
- MA in Political Science (5/2009) – Jackson State University (Jackson, MS.)
- Client Executive Certification – Harvard (Boston, MA.)
- BA in Accounting (5/1974) – Millsaps College (Jackson, MS.)

Planning and Historic Preservation Training

- Mississippi Heritage Trust Conference – June 2014, Tupelo, MS.
- Urban Affairs Conference (UAA) – March 2014, San Antonio, TX.
- Urban Affairs Conference (UAA) – April 2013, San Francisco, CA.
- National American Planners Conference (APA) – April 2012, Los Angeles, CA.
- Historic Preservation Seminar: Mississippi Department of Archives (MDAH) – February 2012, Hazlehurst, MS.
- Historic Preservation Boot Camp Part I – July 2011, Jackson, MS.
- National Historic Preservation Conference – October 2011, Buffalo, NY.
- Mississippi Chapter American Planners Association (MAPA) Conference – March 2011, Ocean Springs, MS.
- National American Planners Conference (Federal Budgets) – September 2010, Washington, DC.
- Historic Preservation Boot Camp Part II – August 2010, Jackson, MS.
- Historic Preservation Boot Camp Part I – July 2010, Jackson, MS.
- Mississippi Chapter National Historic Preservation Conference – May 2010, Biloxi, MS.
- Mississippi American Planners Association Conference (MAPA) – March 2010, Hernando, MS.
- National American Planners Conference (APA) – April 2009, New Orleans, LA.

Other Training

- Parents for Public Schools Seminar – February 2014, Hattiesburg, MS.
- Parents for Public Schools seminar – August 2013, Brookhaven, MS.

Publications

- Foster, D. (2018). *The Many Faces of Hazlehurst, A History of Hazlehurst, Mississippi: Mascot Books.*
- Foster, D. (2014). Dissertation. *Advocating Historic Housing Tax Credits to Individuals Who Own And Live in Pre-1960 Housing to Assist in Alleviating Housing Affordability Crisis in Jackson, Mississippi.* Jackson, Mississippi: Jackson State University.

- Wesley, J. M., & Foster, D. G. (2013, Spring). Civil Rights, Technology and Cultural Tourism: The Emmett Till Historic Intrepid Center Museum in Glendora, Mississippi. *Progressive Planning*(195), 26-30.
- Merem, E. C., Twumasi, Y., Foster, D., Richardson, C., & Yeramilli, S. (2012). Using GIS and Climate Risks Information to Analyze the Vulnerability of Coastal Counties in Louisiana and Mississippi. *Resources and Environment*, 2(1), 1-16.
- Merem, E., Yeramilli, S., Richardson, C., Wesley, J., Walker, T., Foster, D., et al. (2011, December). Using Geospatial Information Systems in Analyzing Urbanization Impacts on Stream Habitats in Southern Mississippi Coastal Ecosystem. *Journal of Environmental Science and Engineering*, 5(12), 1624-1641.
- Merem, E., Yeramilli, S., Richardson, C., Wesley, J., Walker, T., Foster, D., et al. (2011). Applications of Geo-Information Systems in Water Quality Assessment in the Mid-Atlantic Region within an Agricultural Watershed. *Journal of Agricultural Science and Technology*, 24-32.
- Foster, D. (2009). Thesis. *Impact of 2008 Presidential Election in Copiah County*. Jackson, Mississippi: Jackson State University.

Presentations

- Foster, D. G. (2014, December). Research Presentaton. Advocating Historic Preservation Housing Tax Credits to Individuals Who Own and Live in Pre-1960 Housing to Assist in Alleviating Crisis in Housing Affordability in Jackson, MS. *Jackson State University*. Jackson, MS.
- Foster, D. G. (2013, April). Round Table Discussion. Historic Preservation and Arts as an Economic Development Tool . *Urban Affairs Conference 2013*. San Francisco, Ca.
- Foster, D. (2012, November). Paper Presentation. *Historic Preservation* Jackson, Mississippi: Jackson State University Urban Planning.
- Foster, D. (2012, April). Paper Presentation. *Copiah County Bike and Pedestrian Trail*. Los Angeles, California: National American Planning Association Conference.
- Foster, D. (2012, March). Panelist. *Panel Discussion on Diversity for Medical Students*. Jackson, Mississippi: University Medical Center Diversity Seminar.
- Foster, D. (2011, March). Poster Presentation. *Historic Preservation and Housing Affordability*. Ocean Springs, Mississippi: Mississippi American Planning Association Annual Conference
- Foster, D. (2010, June). Paper Presentation. *Community Development Model for Hazlehurst, Mississippi*. Mississippi Municipal League Annual Conference.
- Foster, D. (2010, April). Paper Presentation. *Impact of Gambling in Mississippi*. Jackson, Mississippi: Jackson State University Student Urban Planning Conference.

Community Activities

- Chair of Aging Advisory Committee – Central Mississippi Planning & Development District (February 2014 to present)
- Chair of Calling Panther Heritage Foundation (February 2012 to present)
- Commissioner – Hazlehurst Historic Preservation Commission (11/2010 to present)
- Appointed to Central Mississippi Planning Division Board for the Aging (2012)
- Secretary - Copiah County Democratic Executive Committee (4 year term – starting 2012)
- Coordinator for Copiah County Tourism Committee (2010-2011)

- Secretary - Council of Advisors Board (College of Public Service) – Jackson State University (appointed 9/2009)
- President of Board of Directors for Hazlehurst Area Chamber of Commerce -2011 (Board member since 2009)
- Secretary - Copiah County Democratic Executive Committee (2008 to present)
- Worked on several local political campaigns (2008-2012)
- Executive Director and Board Member of Robert Johnson Creative Arts Learning Center – Crystal Springs, Ms. (2007 – 2009)
- Served as board member of Horizon Theatre (Atlanta, Ga., 2002-2004)
- Served as board member of Brand New Hope (Nassau, Bahamas, 2002-2005)
- Served on Advisory Board of Project First (Atlanta, Ga., 2001-2003)
- Board Member of Techcorp (Atlanta Public Schools Chapter, 1999-2002)

Organizations

- American Planners Association
- Planning and the Black Community
- Small Town and Rural Planning
- Urban Design and Preservation
- National Historic Preservation
- Hazlehurst Area Chamber of Commerce
- Central Mississippi Planning & Development District
- Calling Panther Heritage Foundation
- Copiah County Democratic Executive Committee

Awards and Recognitions

- Award for earning 4.0 in Urban Regional Planning PhD Program at Jackson State University 2012
- Selected as Student Most Representative of Urban and Regional Planning Department at Jackson State University 2012
- Historic Preservation Diversity Scholar 2011
- The President’s Volunteer Service Award for 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011 and 2012.
- Member of Jackson State University’s MU Chapter of Alpha Epsilon Lambda National Honor Society
- Who’s Who Among Students in American Colleges and Universities for 2008
- 3 Golden Circles (Worldwide recognition of top Sales People in IBM)
- 3 Administrative Symposiums (National recognition of top administrators in IBM)
- 2 Regional Manager Awards (Regional recognition of top administrators in IBM)
- 5 Technical Symposiums (National recognition of top System Engineers in IBM)
- 7 100% Clubs (National recognition of top Sales People in IBM)

Experiences

- Adjunct Professor in Urban Studies at Jackson State University 2016 to present
- Project Manager – Millsaps Hotel Restoration Project: Historic hotel in deteriorated condition restored

- Guest Instructor in Urban and Regional Planning at Jackson State University: Theory (2014); Historic Preservation (2011, 2012, 2013); Housing (2011).
- As Chair of the Calling Panther Foundation responsibilities include leading the renovation project for the Historic Millsaps Hotel which will be utilized as a Cultural Arts Center for Copiah County (2012 to present) and also leading fundraising efforts to restore the Robert Johnson birth home; fundraising efforts includes writing grants, organizing fundraising events, and meeting with private donors to solicit their support; developing programming for the Foundation. This is a volunteer position.
- Co-established Copiah County Farmers Market (2011). Wrote and received grant from USDA Rural Development to fund the market for the first two years. Served as Project Manager (2011-2013). Responsibilities included administering the grant, overseeing the implementation of the farmers market, hired and trained the market manager, handled marketing and publicity for the market.
- Established the Calling Panther Heritage Foundation (501c3) in Copiah County, Ms. (2011)
- Develop and maintain web sites 6/2007 – present. The Web sites were developed as a volunteer activity for non-profits and political organizations. Maintenance is on-going.
 - <http://www.hazlehurstchamber.com>
 - <http://www.hazlehursthpc.com>
 - <http://www.copiahdemocrat.com>
 - <http://www.lilliegordonfamily.com>
 - <http://www.lilliegordonfamily.com/nana>
 - <http://www.callingpanther.org>
 - <http://www.mtzionhazlehurst.org>
 - <http://wecaremississippi.org>
- Graduate Research Assistant 9/2009 to 5/2011 – research for Urban and Regional Planning Department. Also taught Urban Planning and Historic Preservation classes.
- Led effort to establish Historic Preservation Commission in Hazlehurst, Ms. (2010)
- Established the Robert Johnson Creative Arts Learning Center in February of 2007. The primary goal of the learning center is to provide the youth of Copiah County with the support and encouragement to stay in school. Served as founding Executive Director and taught Entrepreneurial Class and coordinated talent competition. This was volunteer position.
- Business Development Executive for the southeast 1/2005 – 2/2006. Responsible for business development for southeast education industry. This included meeting and consulting with School Board members and School Superintendents, as well as IBM Business Partners in Georgia, Florida, South Carolina, North Carolina, Tennessee, Maryland, Virginia, and Mississippi.
- Led the sales team (Education Division) for Georgia, Alabama, and Mississippi 1/2001 – 12/2004. 3 years as team lead and 1 year as Business Unit Executive. Responsible for sales to education customers in Georgia, Alabama and Mississippi.
- Led the sales effort to implement an enterprise information center at the largest urban school district in Georgia. This project includes a student information system, financial system, payroll system, human resource system, and a data warehouse. This multi-million dollar project started in January of 2000 and completed in April 2003.

- Led the sales effort and implementation of an enterprise information system for the largest school district in Georgia, consisting of a student information system and a data warehouse. This multi-million dollar project started in January of 1999 and was completed in May of 2001. Additional phases of the project continue.
- Led the sales effort and implementation of (1) development of the official web site for the largest school district in Georgia, upgrade all the notes and domino servers, install a UNIX internet server and intranet server; (2) replace the existing mainframe and software, (3) build a new data center and move the existing data center to the new facility, and (4) a summer rollout of 900 workstations, 30 file servers, and 90 printers. This was a multi-million dollar project that started in August of 1997 and was completed in August of 1998
- Led the sales effort and implementation (and mentored project manager) of adding 50 schools to a school district's Wide Area Network. This project included classrooms and labs and gave (1) teachers access to the Internet and a way to communicate with each other and the district, and (2) gave student's access to the Internet. This multi-million dollar project started in April of 1996 and was completed in March of 1997.
- Led the sales effort and implementation of upgrading and improving the information technology capabilities of the largest school district in Georgia. The enhancements allowed for a more effective delivery and incorporated the use of appropriate technologies that could better serve personnel productivity of both student and administrative information throughout the organization. This multi-million dollar project started in January of 1995 and was completed in March of 1996.
- Served as Systems Engineer for one of Georgia's largest school districts (1987 – 1995). This included advising customer on latest technology and developing proposals to show how IBM products and services could help them solve some of their challenges and also led the implementation of these products and services.
- Did Cash Management forecasting for IBM's National DP division. Followed trends of monthly spending and used this data to project how much cash the division would have on hand. It was critical to project within a 1.0% margin of error. My forecasts were always within a .02% or lower margin of error (1985-1986).
- Instructor for IBM administrators. Classes taught: Verbal Communication, Computer Presentation using Storyboard, Word Processing, System 370 (mainframe computer), and Office Management (1982 – 1984).
- Managed the implementation of IBM's Automated Administrative system for Administrators (1979 – 1981).

Skills

- Proficient in Microsoft Word, Microsoft Excel, Microsoft PowerPoint, Microsoft Access, Microsoft Publisher
- Proficient in ArcMap GIS
- Proficient in Yahoo Sitebuilder for Websites
- Knowledgeable of HTML
- Proficient in several software products used for video and photo editing
- Experienced in Public Speaking