

# The School of Social Work Southern Miss

## *Inside the Newsletter*

### **SCHOLARSHIP SPOTLIGHT**

Read about the Dr. Samuel Tucker scholarship and this year's recipient.

### **BLACK HISTORY SERIES**

Learn more about our weekly Black History series on Facebook!

### **S.T.R.I.D.E**

Check out the official S.T.R.I.D.E statement for more insight on the committee's mission, goals, and objectives.

**Social  
Work  
Shout  
Out**



### **Antonia Pantoja (1922-2012)**

Antonia Pantoja was regarded by many in the Puerto Rico Latino community as one of the most important leaders in the United States. In 1997 she received the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the nation's highest civilian honor, from President Clinton during a ceremony at the White House.

She was involved in a variety of community and professional organizations, all working toward the goal of building stronger Puerto Rican and minority communities, including the Ford Foundation, the National Urban Coalition, the Museo del Barrio, the National Association of Social Workers, the Council on Social Work Education, and several other groups and organizations.

# SCHOLARSHIP SPOTLIGHT

*The University of Southern Mississippi  
School of Social Work*

The Samuel Tucker Master of Social Work and Undergraduate Annual Scholarship awards \$500 to graduate and undergraduate students at the University of Southern Mississippi School of Social Work. Samuel Tucker Scholarship recipients have demonstrated a passion for the leadership, service, and a commitment to the values and ethics set by the Social Work profession.



**Laterrica Moore**

*Samuel Tucker Scholarship recipient*

"For me this scholarship has inspired me to further grow within our department. Grow, and learn more than I did before. [...] This scholarship has provided me with the opportunity to be the first in my family to have a degree higher than a high school diploma."

Dr. Samuel Tucker, a U.S. Army veteran and Social Worker, has been recognized as Citizen of the Year 2002 by the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity in Hattiesburg for his dedication to education and service, and November 24th has been proclaimed by former Hattiesburg Governor Ronnie Musgrove as Samuel Tucker Day in the State of Mississippi.



**Dr. Samuel Tucker**

Dr. Tucker was the first Black faculty member of the Southern Miss School of Social Work where he helped the school acquire its Master accreditation under Dr. Lester Glick and Dr. Shirley Jones.

[Read more about this story here!](#)

# SOCIAL WORK MONTH

Monday, March 1st marked the beginning of Social Work Month and Women's History Month which are dedicated to celebrating the continuous contributions made by both Social Workers and women throughout the country.



“I am not free while any woman is unfree, even when her shackles are very different from my own.”

– Audre Lorde

As this month comes to a close, let us continue to strive to be intentional in acknowledging the accomplishments made by the women around us. Give compliments! Show appreciation! Build each other up and watch the world around us change!

## UPCOMING EVENTS

*School of Social Work:*

**BSW Club**

**Date:**

Tuesday, April 13th 12:00 PM

**Location:**

[Click here for Zoom!](#)

BSW Club Board Applications are due to Rachel Lahasky by April 1st, 2021

**Contact:**

Cesaley.Hammond@usm.edu

Rachel.Lahasky@usm.edu

*Campus Events:*

**ASB Social Convos**

**Don't Touch My Hair:**

**Breaking Down the Crown Act**

**Date and Time:**

Monday, April 12th 6:00 PM

**Location**

[RSVP for Zoom link here](#)

**Guest Speaker:**

Diane Bailey

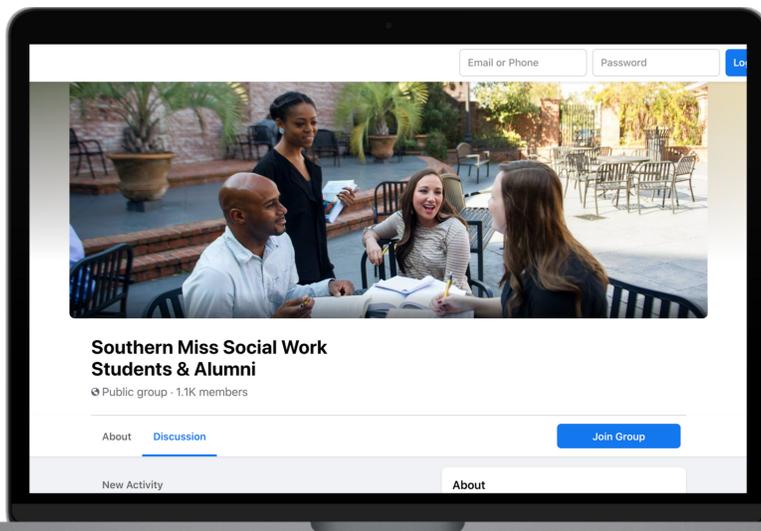
[cce@usm.edu](mailto:cce@usm.edu) | [usm.edu/cce](http://usm.edu/cce)

# BLACK HISTORY SERIES

Every Wednesday, the S.T.R.I.D.E committee will honor prolific Black figures via the Southern Miss Social Work Students & Alumni Facebook page.



Be sure to highlight the notable Black influences in your life by commenting and participating in the prompts we have included in each post!



[Join our Facebook group here!](#)

## S.T.R.I.D.E. READING LIST

**Just Mercy: A Story of Justice and Redemption** by Bryan Stevenson  
ISBN: 978-0-8129-9452-0

**Chula** by Amanda Alcantara  
ISBN: 978-0578460437

**Hope in the Dark** by Rebecca Sonlit  
ISBN: 978-1-6084-6576-7

**Between the World and Me**  
by Ta-Nehisi Coates  
ISBN: 978-0-8129-9354-7

**Coming of Age in Mississippi**  
by Anne Moody  
ISBN: 978-0-4403-1488-2

**Race Talk and the Conspiracy of Silence** by Derald Wing Sue  
ISBN: 978-1-1192-4198-0

## Self-Care Tip:

Don't be afraid of setting limits related to your schedule, client needs, and even your social commitments.

A structured schedule is the best way to prevent burnout and to clearly identify when you can work and when to rest.

### Counseling Center Contact:

Call to make an appointment!

Hattiesburg: 601-266-4829

GulfPark: 228-214-3300

# The University of Southern Mississippi School of Social Work

## Inclusion, Diversity, and Equity

We are committed to fostering, sustaining, and strategizing toward racial inclusion, diversity, and equity (S.T.R.I.D.E.). As a school, we will adhere to this commitment by taking strong positions, taking action, providing help, and being clear on expectations from all affiliated with the School of Social Work at the University of Southern Mississippi (USM). This statement is couched within the National Association of Social Workers (NASW) Code of Ethics. Lastly, this statement is intended to offer our position, plans of action, and expectations for students, staff, faculty, and field partners.

### What is Our Position?

All students, staff, and faculty are welcome in any School of Social Work setting. We disavow all racism, xenophobia, homophobia, sexism, Islamophobia, anti-Semitism, classism, ableism, and hate speech or actions that attempt to silence, threaten, and degrade others. We recognize that discrimination can be direct or indirect and take place at both institutional and personal levels. Expressions or actions that disparage a person are contrary to the mission of S.T.R.I.D.E. and the school and will not be tolerated.

### How do we Implement Action behind our Position?

We are committed to supporting our students and fostering an environment that is free of bias, discrimination, and harassment. We will work to promote an anti-discriminatory environment where everyone should feel welcome. During class, your instructors will not shy away from the uncomfortable. The faculty urge you to have the courage to be uncomfortable in class discussions. In exchange for your courage, we will work to ensure a classroom environment that supports your taking these intellectual and emotional risks.

### What does Providing Help Look Like?

If you feel that our courses, programs, or department fall short of this commitment, we encourage you to engage in dialogue with your instructor, staff, or administrator. Your instructors will always be in the process of learning about diverse perspectives and identities. If something was said or done that made you feel uncomfortable, please talk to an instructor, administrator, or university partner about it. Alternatively, you may file a Statement of Complaint with the **Office of Affirmative Action & Equal Employment Opportunity** in person or online at: <https://forms.usm.edu/human-resources/view.php?id=13153>. You may also contact the **Office of Multicultural Programs and Services (Hattiesburg Campus)** to submit complaints in person or online at: <https://www.usm.edu/student-affairs/cares.php#report>.

### Our Expectations

We expect that learning needs will be addressed both in and out of class. The diversity that students bring to class will be viewed as a resource, strength and benefit. Courteous behavior and responses are expected at all times. It is likely you may not agree with everything that is said or discussed in the classroom. We expect you to be able to disagree without becoming disagreeable. Civility and respect for the opinions of others are very important in an academic environment.