

## Alexis Gatson Heaston

### Personal Information

---

**Current Position** Assistant Professor  
Public Health, Health Administration, Health Sciences  
Tennessee State University  
Avon Williams Campus Suite D-400 330  
10th Avenue North  
Nashville, TN 37203-3401  
Phone: 615-963-7217

### Education

---

<b>2018</b>	<b>Ed.D.</b>	Tennessee State University Major: Educational Leadership Doctoral Advisor: Dr. Eleni Elder Dissertation Title: “How does participating in a peer health education program impact health behaviors among African American college students”?
<b>2015</b>	<b>MAT</b>	Austin Peay State University, Clarksville, Tennessee Major: Teaching
<b>2014</b>	<b>Ed.S.</b>	Tennessee State University, Clarksville, Tennessee Major: Instructional Leadership
<b>2009</b>	<b>M.S.</b>	Austin Peay State University, Clarksville, TN Major: Public and Community Health “Knowledge of cervical cancer among African American and Caucasian women”
<b>2009</b>	<b>B.S.</b>	Austin Peay State University, Clarksville, TN Major: Political Science Minor: Biology

### Professional Experience

---

Tennessee State University, Nashville, TN

#### Assistant Professor

**2019-present**

Department of Public Health, Health Administration & Health Sciences

Provides instruction for Healthcare Administration and Health Sciences courses

Tennessee State University, Nashville, TN

## **Adjunct Professor**

**2017-2019**

Department of Public Health, Health Administration & Health Sciences

- Provides instruction for (HCAP 2010) Introduction to Health Care Organizations course
- Provides instruction for (HLSC 3010) Consumer Health Course
- Provides instruction for (HLSC 3100) Complementary and Alternative Approaches to Healthcare Course
- Provides instruction for (HCAP 3800) Intro to Public Health course

Department of Learning and Civic Engagement

- Provides instruction for (UNIV 1000) Service to Leadership course

Tennessee State University, Nashville, TN

## **Master of Public Health Program Manager**

**2016-2019**

- Provides leadership in the overall logistical plans necessary to successfully execute needs to the program
- Recruits potential graduate students to the Master of Public Health Program
- Creates and analyzes statistical data for program and CEPH accreditation standards and retention initiatives
- Continuously compiles, reviews, and analyzes program outcomes against the established goals, objectives, and timelines
- Recommends and implements improvements to the MPH program development
- Creates and maintains applicable documentation of program activities to ensure compliance with CEPH accreditation standards
- Advises Health Sciences and Healthcare Administration undergraduate students
- Advises graduate students and supervises graduate assistants;
- Implements retention and student tracking activities;

- Actively participates in identifying grants and assists in preparing grant applications
- Provides budgetary management to the program
- Proposes strategies to promote continued change, growth or expansion of the MPH program
- Responsible for SACS Compliance Credentialing for the Department
- Serves on PhD proposal committee and assists with PhD proposal development
- Serves on the Department of Public Health, Health Administration and Health Sciences Advisory board

Robertson County Schools, Springfield, TN

**Social Science Teacher** (History/Geography and Government)

**2015-2016**

- Planned, prepared and delivered instructional activities that facilitate active learning experiences
- Established and communicated clear objectives for all learning activities
- Instructed and monitored students in the use of learning materials and equipment
- Used relevant technology to support instruction
- Observed and evaluated student's performance and development
- **Other contributions:** Served on school's data team; served on school's accreditation data team, and taught an ACT Prep/College Readiness Course

Tennessee State University, Nashville, TN

**Associate Director of Admissions and Campus Events**

**2014-2015**

- Responsible for coordinating, and managing the timely processing of admissions applications and the daily related office operations in the Office of Admissions
- Responsible for coordinating all requests for campus visits as well as the interviewing and hiring of new Student Tour Ambassadors; coordinating and overseeing the initial and on-going training of the Student Tour Ambassadors
- Directly responsible for supervising, training, and evaluating the admissions processing staff
- Responsible for managing the communications plan for prospective undergraduate students through the University's CRM (Hobsons), and drafting and sending all email and postal mail communications to prospective students
- Responsible for assisting the Director of Admissions in the coordination and development of targeted communication pieces such as view-books, postcards, posters, website, emails, etc.

- Responsible for assisting with the University's recruitment efforts as needed

Tennessee State University, Nashville, TN

**Admissions Counselor/Coordinator of Campus Tours and Admissions Events**

**2011-2014**

- Counseled prospective students and promoted the University to exterior constituencies.
- Acted as a liaison between the University and its various constituencies to enhance the University's image
- Assisted and advise students during Summer orientation and pre-registration
- Continuously communicated with, tracked progress of and followed up with all prospective students (using a self-developed, organized system) in a given population from the point of initial contact through the application process via in-person visits, phone calls, letters, emails, etc.
- Coordinated special events and managing visiting groups/individuals
- Collected and analyzed students' enrollment data
- Forecasted trends pertaining to enrollment and retention
- Developed a biennial strategic recruitment plan
- Coordinated and scheduled all campus visits, tours, and meetings for prospective students.
- Provided information to students and parents about the requirements and procedures for admission.
- Assisted in the management of student employees and direct work flow.
- Maintained effective communication with the Departments of Financial Aid, Registrar, and other university departments
- **Accomplishments:** Chaired and ensured the success of the First Annual "Junior Jumpstart" and "Big Blue Explosion (recruitment events) coordinated the first Shelby County Area/Northern Mississippi Scholarship Reception. Chair the first Tennessee State University Counselors Luncheon and Scholarship Reception for the Clarksville Montgomery County School System.

**College of Human Performance and Sports Sciences Graduate Intern**

**2014**

- Supported the management of grants and programs in the College of Human Performance and Sport Sciences
- Informed, educated, and empowered students on health issues
- Provided instruction for undergraduate level courses
- Analyzed undergraduate student level data and prepared assessments accordingly

Austin Peay State University, Clarksville TN

**2008-2011**

### **Admissions Counselor**

- Counseled prospective students and promoted the University to exterior constituencies.
- Conducted extensive travel to include evenings and weekends to secondary schools, community colleges, and other venues within assigned areas and at-large.
- Disseminated information regarding admissions criteria, scholarships, financial aid, and programs of study, etc.; counsel students and parents in all areas.
- Developed and maintain a close working relationship with individuals, departments, and organizations on campus as well as various constituencies off-campus, including secondary school and community college officials.
- Assisted in coordinating special events and managing visiting groups/individuals.
- **Accomplishments:** Recruited students from the West TN area with an applicant increase of 15 percent for an academic school year

### **Publications**

---

Inman, W., Briggs, R., **Heaston, A.**, Theriot, R., (2017). Training Future Health Care Professionals to Work in Teams: The Need for Interdisciplinary Professional Education. *Journal of the National Society of Allied Health*, 13(1)

Brown, E., Brown, C., Johnson, O., Inman, W., Burrell, W., Briggs, R., **Heaston, A.** (2019). Using community-based participatory research to assess the needs of HIV-related services for individuals infected with HIV/AIDS in rural communities. *Journal of Community Engagement and Scholarship*, 12(1), 10-16

Patel, K., Gishe, J. Liu, J., **Heaston, A.** Manis, E., Moharreri, B., Hargreaves, M0 (2019). Factors influencing recommended cancer screening in low-income African American Women in Tennessee. *Journal of Racial and Ethnic Health Disparities*,

### **Book Chapters and Book Contributions**

---

Inman, W., **Heaston, A.**, Briggs, R. Theriot, T. (2018). Hormone Replacement Therapy: The Plight of Aging Women in Arab Nations. *Handbook of Healthcare in the Arab World*. Vancouver, CA. University of British Columbia

### **Presentations**

---

Brown, C., **Heaston, A.**, Daniels, B. (2018). Screening for depression, anxiety, and substance abuse among college students in Tennessee. Tennessee Public Health Association, Franklin, TN

Heaston, A. (2018). What is worship. African Methodist Episcopal Church North District Tennessee Annual Conference Planning Meeting, Clarksville, TN

Heaston, M, Heaston, A. (2016). Self-worth. Presented at the PUSH Conference in Covington, TN.

Heaston, A. (2015). The Role of Alumni Ambassadors. Tennessee Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers Annual Meeting, Nashville, TN

### **Research Interests**

---

Educational leadership  
Health education  
Cultural competence in education  
Health disparities

### **Committees**

---

HLSC Academic Audit  
Master of Public Health Program CEPH Self Study  
Bachelor of Science in Public Health program modification  
PhD Public Health Proposal

### **Academic Honors and Awards**

---

Fellow, NHLBI Obesity Health Disparities PRIDE Program, University Mississippi Medical Center, Jackson, MS, 2019

TSU Degree Incentive Financial Award for Completion of Additional Degree, June, 2018

Golden Key International Honor Society, Member  
Tennessee State University, 2014

TSU Degree Incentive Financial Award for Completion of Additional Degree, September, 2014

Alpha Kappa Mu National Honor Invitee  
Tennessee State University, 2014

### **Licensure and Certifications**

---

Tennessee Teacher's Certificate; secondary education  
Tennessee Teaching License: History and Government  
CHES Certification-in progress

### **Professional Memberships**

---

Tennessee Public Health Association  
Healthy Clarksville Council  
American Public Health Association  
Golden Key National Honor Society

### **Teaching Interests**

---

Educational Leadership  
Teaching Diverse Students  
Research in Education  
School and Community Relations  
Introduction to Public Health  
Consumer Health  
Healthcare Organization  
Health and Education

### **Community Service**

---

American Public Health Association Abstract Reviewer

TNAchieves  
Mentor  
2015 – Present