

Zyrashae Smith-Onyewu

College of Education

University of Florida

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ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

2023 – Present *Postdoctoral Research Scholar*
Institute of Higher Education
College of Education
University of Florida, Gainesville, FL

EDUCATION

2018 – 2023 Ph.D., Education
Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD
Dissertation Title: Selective high school admissions and effects: How schools shape students' high school and postsecondary destinations.
Advisor: Marc L. Stein
Dissertation Committee: Julia Burdick-Will, Rachel E. Durham, Ileana Gonzalez, Odis Johnson, Jr.

2016 M.Ed., Educational Studies
Certificate, Urban Education
Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD

2008 B.A., Psychology (*cum laude*)
Morgan State University, Baltimore, MD

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

Cortes, J. B., **Smith-Onyewu, Z.**, Kim-Christian, P., Stein, M. L., & Dewey, N. (*Accepted*).
How long will it take? Commuting time and differential access to an urban community college. *New Directions for Community Colleges*.

Lofton, R., Gamez, R., Nelson, N., & **Smith, Z.** (*Accepted*). Reviewing concentrated poverty literature through an anti-Blackness lens to reveal a concentrated debt. *Educational Researcher*.

Smith-Onyewu, Z., Stein, M. L., Cortes, J. B., Kim-Christian, P., & Dewey, N. (*Revise and resubmit*). Public transit and urban community college access. *Research in Higher Education*.

Plasman, J., Stein, M. L., Durham, R. E., & **Smith-Onyewu, Z.** (*Revise and resubmit*). CTE mechanisms: The effects of CTE center admissions offers in Baltimore. *Educational Evaluation and Policy Analysis*.

Reports

Durham, R. E., **Smith, Z.**, & Cronister, C. (2023). *College access in Baltimore: A decade of college-going among City Schools graduates*. Baltimore, MD: Baltimore Education Research Consortium.

Durham, R. E., **Smith, Z.**, & Cronister, C. (2020). *Baltimore college fact book: Data digest of college access outcomes*. Baltimore, MD: Baltimore Education Research Consortium.

Manuscripts in Preparation

Smith-Onyewu, Z., Cortes, J. B., Kim-Christian, P., Dewey, N., & Stein, M. L. Estimating spatial access to broad access postsecondary institutions in Maryland.

Durham, R. E., **Smith-Onyewu, Z.**, Stein, M. L., & Plasman, J. Causal evidence of the role of CTE in postsecondary enrollment and persistence.

Cortes, J. B., **Smith-Onyewu, Z.**, Kim-Christian, P., Dewey, N., & Stein, M. L. Socio-spatial distribution of urban community college access.

AWARDS, HONORS, AND FELLOWSHIPS

2022 – 2023	American Education Research Association (AERA) Minority Dissertation Fellowship, \$25,000
2022 – 2023	Social Justice Fellow, Johns Hopkins University School of Education
2022	Faculty First Look Fellow, New York University
2022	Johns Hopkins University School of Education Jeffery A. Grigg Memorial Award, \$1,000
2017	Johns Hopkins University School of Education Student Excellence Award in Educational Studies, Interdisciplinary
2008	Clayton Stansbury Psychology Award for Leadership Service
2006	Psi Chi, International Honor Society in Psychology

2006 Golden Key International Honor Society

2005 – 2008 Dean’s List

2004 – 2008 Martin D. Jenkins Honors Scholarship

GRANTS

Research

2021 Johns Hopkins 21st Century Cities Initiative Award for Doctoral Research on Urban Issues, **\$4,000**

Travel

2022 American Educational Research Association, Division J Travel Grant, **\$400**

2020 American Educational Research Association, Research Focus on Black Education Special Interest Group, Graduate Student Travel Award, **\$500**

PRESENTATIONS

Conference Presentations

Smith, Z. (April 2023). *Selective High School Effects on College Readiness and Postsecondary Destination*. Poster presented at the American Education Research Association (AERA) Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL.

Durham, R. E., Stein, M. L., Plasman, J. S., & **Smith, Z.** (April 2023). *Causal Evidence of the Role of CTE in Postsecondary Enrollment and Persistence*. Paper presented at the American Education Research Association (AERA) Annual Meeting. Chicago, IL.

Smith, Z. (March 2023). *Benefits of Being in the Elite: A Regression Discontinuity Analysis of the Effects of Selective High Schools on Students’ College Readiness*. Paper presented at the Association for Education Finance and Policy (AEFP) Annual Conference. Denver, CO.

Smith, Z. (November 2022). *Effects of selective academic high schools on college enrollment*. Paper presented at the Association for the Study of Higher Education (ASHE) Annual Meeting. Las Vegas, NV.

Plasman, J. S., Stein, M. L., Durham, R. E., & **Smith, Z.** (November 2022). *Effects of CTE Admissions Offer on High School Outcomes*. Poster presented at the Association for Career and Technical Education Research (ACTER). Las Vegas, NV.

Stein, M. L., Plasman, J. S., Durham, R. E., & **Smith, Z.** (November 2022). *CTE Pursuit and Academic Outcomes: The Case of Baltimore CTE Centers*. Paper presented at the Association for Public Policy and Analysis (APPAM). Washington, DC.

Smith, Z., Cortes, J. B., Kim-Christian, P., Dewey, N., & Stein, M. L. (April 2022). *Estimating spatial access to broad-access postsecondary institutions in Maryland*. Paper presented at the American Education Research Association (AERA) Annual Meeting. San Diego, CA.

Lofton, R., Gamez, R., & **Smith, Z.** (April 2022). *Reviewing concentrated poverty literature through an anti-blackness lens to reveal a concentrated debt*. Paper accepted for presentation at the American Education Research Association (AERA) Annual Meeting. San Diego, CA.

Cortes, J. B., **Smith, Z.**, Kim-Christian, P., Dewey, N., & Stein, M. L. (November 2021). *Socio-spatial distribution of urban community college access*. Paper presented at the Association for the Study of Higher Education (ASHE) Annual Meeting. San Juan, PR.

Smith, Z., Cortes, J. B., Dewey, N., & Stein, M. L. (April 2021). *Urban access deserts: An analysis of public transportation as a barrier to community college access*. Paper presented at the American Education Research Association (AERA) Annual Meeting. Orlando, FL.

Smith, Z. & Cortes, J. B. (November 2020). *The unobserved value of minority-serving institutions: A contextual analysis of underrepresented minoritized student graduation rates at MSIs*. Paper presented at the Association for the Study of Higher Education (ASHE) Annual Meeting. New Orleans, LA.

Smith, Z. & Stein, M. L. (April 2020). *Grey market choice: An examination of out-of-zone enrollment as a form of choice*. Paper accepted for presentation at the American Education Research Association (AERA) Annual Meeting. San Francisco, CA.

Smith, Z. (April 2008). *Ethnic identity and academic attitudes: A study of students in a private secondary institution*. Poster session presented at the annual Mae P. Claytor & Martin D. Jenkins Psychology Undergraduate Research Conference, Morgan State University. Baltimore, MD.

Smith, Z. (July 2007). *Within group differences in ethnic identity, cultural mistrust, and academic attitudes in the Black population*, Poster presented at the Leadership Alliance National Symposium. Stamford, CT.

Invited Presentations

Pursuing a PhD as a Student of Color. Post-bac/graduate Research Edification & Preparedness for PhD in Education (PREPPEd), JHU School of Education. Baltimore, MD, June 2023.

College Overmatching, Undermatching, and Fit. College advising staff professional development, CollegeBound Foundation, Baltimore, MD, January 2023.

Postsecondary Pathways After High School Among Baltimore City Schools Graduates. Annual Principal's Retreat, CollegeBound Foundation. Baltimore, MD, April 2022.

Vivi: A Virtual College Admissions Assistant. Doctor of Education Summer Residency Program, Johns Hopkins University School of Education. Baltimore, MD, July 2020.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- 2021 – 2023 *Research Assistant*, “Postsecondary and Labor Market Effects of Career and Technical Education in Baltimore City Public Schools.” PI: Marc L. Stein (with co-PIs Rachel E. Durham and Jay S. Plasman), Institute of Education Sciences (R305A210049), U.S. Department of Education.
- 2019 – 2023 *Graduate Research Fellow*. Baltimore Education Research Consortium.
- 2020 – 2021 *Research Assistant*, Nobody Asked Me Initiative, PI: Richard Lofton
- 2016 “Analysis of College-Going Attitudes at a Vocational High School”, Research Proposal, Johns Hopkins University
- 2016 “Effects of College Exposure Program on College Aspiration of Urban Ninth Grade Students”, Research Proposal, Johns Hopkins University
- 2008 “Ethnic Identity and Academic Attitudes: A Study of Students in a Private Secondary Institution”, Poster Presentation, Morgan State University
- 2007 “Within Group Differences in Ethnic Identity, Cultural Mistrust, and Academic Attitudes in the Black Population”, Poster Presentation, The Leadership Alliance, Brown University

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Invited Lecturer

- Fall 2023 Public Policy in Higher Education
College of Education, University of Florida

Teaching Assistant

Fall 2022 Federal Education Policy (ED.820.603)
School of Education, Johns Hopkins University
Dr. Jonathan Plucker

Summer 2022 Introduction to Education Policy (ED.820.602)
School of Education, Johns Hopkins University
Dr. Dennis A. Kramer

SERVICE

Professional

2023 *Reviewer, Social Problems Journal*

2023 *Proposal reviewer, Association for the Study of Higher Education (ASHE) Annual Conference*

2022 – 2023 *Proposal reviewer, American Education Research Association (AERA) Annual Meeting*

2022 – 2023 *Paper session chair, Association for Education Finance and Policy (AEFP) Annual Conference*

2022 – 2023 *Graduate Student Associate, Sociology of Education Journal*

2022 – 2023 *Paper session chair, Association for the Study of Higher Education (ASHE) Annual Conference*

2022 *Conference Ambassador, Institute in Critical Quantitative, Computational, & Mixed Methodologies, 2022 ICQCM Summit*

University

2018 – Present *Organizer, Schoolhouse Talk! Doctoral Student Speaker Series*

2019 – 2021 *Representative, School of Education, Johns Hopkins University Graduate Student Organization*

2020 *Speaker, Johns Hopkins University School of Education PhD Virtual Webinar (Prospective student information session)*

Community

- 2021 *Facilitator*, College Essay Writing Workshop Series, Imagine Me Ministries
- 2019 – 2022 *Scholarship Application Evaluator*, CollegeBound Foundation
- 2019 *Facilitator*, College Access Workshop Series, Imagine Me Ministries

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 2015 – 2018 *College Access Program Specialist*
CollegeBound Foundation, Baltimore, MD
- 2013 – 2015 *Academic Success Coach*
Prince George’s County Public Schools, College Park, MD
- 2009 – 2012 *Attendance and Enrollment Coordinator*
Specialized Education Services, Inc. (New Hope Academy), Baltimore, MD

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- 2023 – Present Association for Education Finance Policy (AEFP)
- 2019 – Present Association for the Study of Higher Education (ASHE)
- 2018 – Present American Educational Research Association (AERA), Division J
Postsecondary Education
- 2017 – 2018 Potomac & Chesapeake Association for College Admission Counseling (PCACAC)