



MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY™
OFFICE OF RESEARCH AND
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

2016-2017 Faculty Leadership Benjamin F. Hilbun Group



1953-1960



Amy Crumpton

Dr. Amy Crumpton has been a professor at MSU in the Interior Design program at Mississippi State University since 2005. Prior to this, she worked in industry for ten years as a commercial Interior Designer and a Workplace Strategist. At MSU, she teaches the freshman drawing course as well as the senior professional practice class. In addition, she teaches the Corporate Design Studio, Career and Portfolio Development and a class in LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design). She is glad that she has had the opportunity to teach that broadly across her program, allowing her to be involved at all levels as they prepare students for a career in one of the many types of design available in the US and abroad.

Dr. Crumpton has a masters degree in Interior Design from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville and attended MSU for her undergraduate degree. Her husband of 26 years, Joe Crumpton, also works for MSU as a Research Professor and Instructor in the Computer Science Program. She has a 16 year old daughter, Emma, who attends Starkville High school. Emma is interested in singing and theater and plans to study vocal science in college to become a college professor. Dr. Crumpton has three dogs and is eternally fascinated by their behavior and differing personalities.



Darrin Dodds

Dr. Dodds was born and raised in west central Illinois at received a B.S. degree in agriculture from Western Illinois University in 1999. He completed two internships with Growmark and two internships with Zeneca Ag Products during his undergraduate studies. Dr. Dodds completed a M.S. degree in Agriculture and Life Sciences (Weed Science) at Purdue University and a Ph.D. in Agriculture and Life Sciences (Weed Science) at Mississippi State University in 2007.

Dr. Dodds was named to the faculty at Mississippi State University in June 2007 as an Assistant Extension Professor/Extension Cotton Specialist and was promoted to Associate Extension Professor in July 2013. Dr. Dodds currently maintains a 75% Extension and 25% research appointment in the Department of Plant and Soil Sciences at Mississippi State University. He is responsible for statewide extension programming for all facets of cotton production and manages the cotton official variety trial program (OVT) at Mississippi State University. Dr. Dodds has graduated 5 M.S. students and currently has 2 M.S. students and 3 Ph.D. students under his direction and has or is currently serving on committees of 16 additional M.S. or Ph.D. students. Dr. Dodds former and current students have won over 19 oral or poster presentation awards. Dr. Dodds has served a principal investigator or co-principal investigator for grants and contracts totaling nearly \$2.7 million. He has authored or co-authored 19 refereed manuscripts, 2 book chapters, 50 extension publications, and 185 published abstracts. Dr. Dodds was awarded State Pride awards for Excellence in Extension at Mississippi State University in 2010 and 2011; the Southern Region IPM Center Pulling Together Award in 2012; the Wesley Farmer Outstanding Extension Specialist award at Mississippi State University in 2012; the cotton researcher of the year award at the 16th annual National Conservation Tillage Systems Cotton and Rice Conference in 2013; the Extension Cotton Specialist of the Year award at the Beltwide Cotton Conferences in 2014; the Mississippi State University Gamma Sigma Delta Excellence in Extension Award in 2014; the agricultural achievement award from the Mid-South Farm and Gin Show in 2015; J. Tom Cothren Young Cotton Physiologist of the Year Award in 2016 at the Beltwide Cotton Conferences, and the R.R. Foil Teamwork Award from Mississippi State University. He serves annually as a student contest judge at the Beltwide Cotton Conference, the Southern Weed Science Society, the Weed Science Society of America. In addition, he has served as student presentation contest committee chair or co-chair twice for the Southern Weed Science Society and is the current student contest chair for the Weed Science Society of America. Dr. Dodds has served terms on the Board of Directors for the Southern Weed Science Society and the Weed Science Society of America. Dr. Dodds also serves in a leadership position at Mississippi State University as a Senator on the Robert Holland Faculty Senate as well as on numerous faculty search committees. Dr. Dodds is most proud of the continued success of the Row Crop Short Course which he coordinates, the success of his undergraduate and graduate students, and the relationships he has with all of those in agriculture in Mississippi and beyond. He strives to provide effective, economical solutions to problems faced by cotton growers.

Deborah K. Eakin

Dr. Deborah K. Eakin was born and raised in Wooster, Ohio. At 18, she moved with her family to LaGrange, Georgia where she completed two years of college before marrying and starting a family. She later returned to college and graduated Summa Cum Laude with a BS in Psychology from Columbus State University. After working for a year for Columbus Hospice, she began a PhD program in Cognitive Psychology at the University of Kansas. She completed her doctoral training under an NIH-NIA pre-doctoral fellowship and was awarded her Ph.D. in August, 2003. She was awarded an NIH-NIA post-doctoral training grant fellowship at the Georgia Institute of Technology that she completed in August, 2005. She came to Mississippi State University in 2005, and was tenured and promoted to Associate Professor in 2011.



Dr. Eakin's primary research interest is in memory and metamemory, or our assessment of our own memory. She uses a variety of techniques, including functional Magnetic Resonance Imaging (fMRI) and behavioral testing to understand both processes. In addition, research with special populations, such as children, students, children and adults with Asperger's Syndrome, and older adults both inform theories about metamemory and provide a source of application of the findings. She also investigates the theoretical bases of false eyewitness memory. Although this research is also theoretical, it has implications for society, especially given that 70% of wrongful convictions that were exonerated with DNA evidence were based on eyewitness testimony. Her work has been published in leading Cognitive Psychology journals such as the *Journal of Experimental Psychology: Learning, Memory and Cognition*, the *Journal of Memory and Language*, and the *Journal of Gerontology: Psychological Sciences*. She is currently co-PI on an NSF grant investigating (in part) the impact of misleading information presented by a robot versus a human interviewer on child eyewitness memory.

Dr. Eakin served as Graduate Coordinator for the Department of Psychology for five years. She served as Vice President on the College of Arts & Sciences Faculty Senate for two years. Currently, she is an elected member of the Graduate Council, representing the College. She teaches the graduate Research Methods course, as well as the Advanced Memory graduate course and various graduate seminars. She teaches the undergraduate Cognitive Psychology and Human Memory courses. She enjoys mentoring graduate and undergraduate students in research. She regularly supervises 10-15 undergraduate students in her lab each semester, and has supervised over 20 undergraduate senior theses. She currently mentors four graduate students.



Jeffrey Eells

Dr. Jeffrey Eells received a bachelors of arts degree for Miami University, Oxford, OH, in 1992. He then started graduate school in the Department of Physiology at Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, IL. His research career started by evaluating the neuroanatomical distribution of transcription factor protein expression after different types of seizures. After completing his PhD, Dr. Eells started a post-doctoral fellowship at the National Institute for Environmental Health Sciences, Research Triangle Park, NC through a training fellowship from University of North Carolina, Neurobiology Curriculum at Chapel Hill, NC. His research at NIEHS consisted of two projects. One project focused on changes in transcription factors and neurogenesis in the hippocampus of a rat model of temporal lobe epilepsy while the other was investigating survival of dopamine neurons with activation of glia cells and microglia. This later project let led him to continue his post-doctoral training at the National Institute for Diabetes, Digestive and Kidney Disease, Bethesda, MD from 1998-2003. This research focused on the genetic regulation of dopamine neurotransmission. Currently, Dr. Eells is an Associate Professor at Mississippi State University, Mississippi State, MS. His current research focus is on how environment stressors (specifically isolation stress and infection with *Toxoplasma gondii*) interacts with disruption of a gene important for regulating dopamine neurotransmission to alter gene expression, dopamine neurochemistry and behaviors that are related to mental illness, such as schizophrenia. In addition to his research efforts here at Mississippi State University, Dr. Eells teaches Veterinary Neuroscience and Veterinary Anatomy in the veterinary curriculum.



Yong Fu

Dr. Yong Fu is an associate professor in the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering at Mississippi State University (MSU). He has been awarded the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) Endowed Professorship in Power Systems Engineering. He received his Ph.D. degree in Electrical Engineering from Illinois Institute of Technology in 2006. From 2006-2009, he was a senior research associate at the Robert W. Galvin Center for Electricity Innovation at Illinois Institute of Technology. He joined the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering at Mississippi State University as an Assistant Professor in Fall 2009.

Dr. Fu's principal research area is the power system and smart grid technologies. He has published over 40 papers in top-tier journals in the power field, like IEEE Transactions on Power Systems, Smart Grid, Power Delivery, Sustainable Energy, and Industrial Electronics. He also has 35 referred conference papers published in power system research area. Dr. Fu has been part of funded projects totaling \$13.6M since working at MSU, both as PI and Co-PI on projects including Smart Grid, Electric Ship Research, Micro-CHP, and Synchrophasor. He was a recipient of the NSF Faculty Early Career Development (CAREER) Award in 2012. He was awarded the 2015 Bagley College of Engineering Faculty Research Award. He serves as an associate editor for the IEEE Transactions on Power Systems, the IEEE Power Engineering Letters, the IEEE Access, and the Journal of Electric Power Components and Systems. He was also a Guest Editor of the special issue of the IEEE Transactions on Smart Grid. He has served as technical committee member, and session Chairs/Co-Chairs at national/international conferences. He is an IEEE senior member.



Jeffrey Haupt

Jeffrey Haupt attended the Cleveland Institute of Art. While obtaining his BFA there, Jeffrey was selected for a travel fellowship to live and work in Scotland. After completing studies at CIA, Jeffrey was one of eight artists selected out of the ninety-six graduating students to win a travel scholarship. He used this award to study in Spain and Holland before returning to begin graduate work at the New York Academy. Haupt earned his MFA at Indiana University and was awarded the Lanham fellowship to study in Italy. Upon graduation, Jeffrey accepted a position at Mississippi State University. Since joining MSU, Haupt's work has been exhibited from Alaska to Florida, California to New York and many points between.



Alexandra Hui

Alexandra Hui grew up in California and studied Astrophysics as an undergraduate at Pomona College. She received her MA and PhD in History from the University of California at Los Angeles. Hui then joined the faculty at Mississippi State University in 2008. She is currently an Associate Professor of History, specializing in the history of science and modern German history. Hui is the head of the History of Science, Technology, and Medicine field and Core Faculty of the Center for the History of Agriculture, Science, and the Environment in the South (CHASES). Hui's dissertation and monograph, *The Psychophysical Ear: Musical Experiments, Experimental Sounds, 1840-1910* (MIT Press, 2012), explored the relationship between psychophysical studies of sound sensation and music culture. She has published articles in *Annals of Science*, *Journal for the History of the Behavioral Sciences*, and *Historische Anthropologie*, several chapters in edited collections, and co-edited the 2013 *Osiris* volume on music, sound, and the laboratory. Her research has been funded by the National Science Foundation, the Fulbright Foundation, and the Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst. She has been a visiting scholar at UCLA, the Norwegian University of Science and Technology, and the Max Planck Institute for the History of Science. Her current projects examine the co-development of new listening forms and background music technology and the standardization of listening practices among field scientists. Which means she currently listens to a lot of Muzak and talks to a lot of duck hunters.



Melissa Moore

Dr. Moore is the newly appointed Head of the Department of Marketing, Quantitative Analysis, and Business Law at Mississippi State University's (MSU) College of Business (COB), having previously served the university in several leadership roles: chair of the summer school task force, marketing chair of the Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) titled Maroon and Write, member of two presidential search committees, former assistant director of the Day One Leadership Community, as well as chair of the COB's recent 100th Anniversary celebration.

Dr. Moore's research, teaching, and business background have yielded over forty academic presentations and twenty plus journal articles. She has been Co-Pi on international and regional grants totaling over \$3,000,000. Her current project (along with six colleagues) involves a \$275,000 grant from the Small Business Administration to house a veteran's business outreach center. As such, Dr. Moore is actively involved with MSU's entrepreneurship center and sits on the advisory board.

Dr. Moore's enthusiasm for teaching, research, and service has yielding several honors—most recently the 2016 Kathy M. St. John Fellowship and the 2015 Centennial Fellowship—in addition to being named the 2010 MSU Outstanding Faculty Women by the President's Commission on the Status of Women and the 2005 John Grisham Master Teacher (MSU's highest teaching honor).

Dr. Moore is a member of the American Marketing Association, Society for Marketing Advances, Academy of Marketing Science, and the Marketing Management Association, having previously served as President, Program-Chair, and Vice President of Marketing for the latter.



Andy Perkins

Dr. Perkins is an Associate Professor of Computer Science and Engineering. He joined Mississippi State University in 2008 after completing his PhD in Computer Science at the University of Tennessee. His research interests are in the areas of computational biology and bioinformatics, graph algorithms, and high performance computing. His research is highly interdisciplinary, involving collaborators from a number of departments and colleges across the university. Dr. Perkins regularly teaches courses in the areas of computational biology, bio-computing, high throughput biological data analysis, graph algorithms, and formal languages.

Dr. Perkins's commitment to involving undergraduates in research has led to his direction of an NSF-funded Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REU) site in computational biology for the past seven years. This program brings ten students to campus for ten weeks during the summer to work with faculty mentors in various disciplines.

At Mississippi State, Dr. Perkins serves as chair of the steering committee for the Certificate in Computational Biology, co-director of the Digital Biology Learning Community, and chair of the Bagley College of Engineering Course and Curriculum Review Committee. Dr. Perkins is a Senior Member of the Association for Computing Machinery (ACM) and previously served as President and Board Member for the MidSouth Computational Biology and Bioinformatics Society (MCBIOS), a regional professional society with chapters in seven states and a membership of over 200 student and professional researchers from across the country.



Edwin Webster

Charles Edwin Webster was born in Florida and graduated from the University of West Florida with a B.S. degree in chemistry and biochemistry in 1995. Edwin received his Ph.D. in chemistry in 1999 at the University of Florida where he worked with Professors Russell S. Drago, Michael C. Zerner, Michael J. Scott, and C. Russell Bowers. Edwin later joined Professor Michael B. Hall's research group in the Department of Chemistry at Texas A&M University, where he was a post-doctoral researcher and lecturer and was later promoted to Research Scientist. In 2005, he was hired as an Assistant Professor at the University of Memphis, where he rose through the ranks to Professor (he was a Full Professor for one day at Memphis!). In 2014, Edwin joined

Mississippi State University where he is now a Professor of Chemistry. His research focuses on using theoretical and computational chemistry to research and answer questions in a variety of areas, including biological enzyme catalysis, catalytic and stoichiometric mechanisms of bond activation and functionalization of organic molecules by organometallic transition metal complexes, and the elucidation of structure and bonding of various compounds of interest. He has worked with and mentored numerous students, including 4 high school students, 22 undergraduate students, 22 graduate students, 5 post-doctoral associates, and one research scientist. He has authored/coauthored 64 peer-reviewed scientific publications and has more than 176 total publications. He has presented 24 invited presentations and presented more than 120 contributed presentations. He has contributed to outreach activities benefitting more than 6,000 participants. He is currently a member of the American Chemical Society (now, a member for 24 years). He has been awarded as PI or coPI numerous competitive research grants and contracts (totaling more than \$8 million). His honors include the University of Florida, Department of Chemistry Teaching Award, the Mississippi State College of Arts and Sciences Research Award, appointment to the Editorial Advisory Board of the American Chemical Society's journal *Organometallics*, appointment as a Visiting Professor in the Department of Chemistry at Zhengzhou University, P. R. China, and a National Science Foundation Career Award.

Edwin has also served the universities where he has worked in numerous committee roles, including Graduate Coordinator, member of the Graduate Council for the College of Arts and Sciences, Director of the Computational Research On Materials Institute at the University of Memphis, Information Technology Research Advisory Committee (ITRAC), ITRAC High Performance Computing Subcommittee, the Teaching and Learning Advisory Committee, and the University of Memphis Faculty Advisory Committee for Research.

Edwin has been married to Candace for 16 years and counting! They have two children, William (11) and Anna Bowen (9). He enjoys sports, outdoor activities, and spending time with his family.