## EDUCATION

**2018 University of West Georgia**  Doctor of Education

Dissertation: *An Analysis of Supreme Court Jurisprudence Related to Education, Race,*

*and Equality*

Major: School Improvement

Concentration: Educational Leadership

**2008 University of West Georgia**  Educational Specialist

Major: Educational Leadership

**2001 Mercer University**  Juris Doctor

Major: Law

**1998 Tuskegee University**

Bachelor of Arts

Major: English

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2019 – Present Assistant Professor, Educational Leadership, University of West Georgia

2017 – 2019 Associate Superintendent, Georgia Department of Juvenile Justice

2015 – 2017 Literacy Consultant, Southern Regional Education Board

2010 – 2015 School Improvement Specialist, Meriwether County Schools

2007 – 2010 Career and Technical Education Director, Meriwether County Schools

2005 – 2007 Closing Attorney, Law Office of Wright McCleod

2005 – 2007 English Department Chair, Manchester High School

2003 – 2007 English Teacher, Meriwether County Schools

2003 Adjunct Professor, Valdosta State University

2002 – 2003 Municipal Court Solicitor, Valdosta, Georgia

2001 – 2002 Staff Attorney, Georgia Legal Services

1999 – 2001 Graduate Research Assistant, Mercer University School of Law

**PUBLICATIONS**

**Referred Journals** *(\*denotes student co-author)*

**Ruffin, J. F.,** & **Varga, M. A.** (In progress). Race and equality in K-12 education: A critical examination of Supreme Court Jurisprudence from 1954-2007. *The Qualitative Report.*

**Evans, G., Ruffin, J.F**. (In progress). Leadership perspectives on equity in a rural school district: A case study. *The Rural Educator.*

**\*Ruffin, J.F., Dalton, D**. (In progress). The identity sketch: Using personal narratives to build culturally proficient school leaders. *Journal of Research on Leadership Education*.

**Ruffin, J.F.** Inhale, exhale, teach: An autoethnography (In progress). *Equity and Excellence in Education*.

**Ruffin, J.F., & Simon, M**. (Accepted for Publication). Developing culturally proficient leaders through graduate coursework: Examining student perspectives. *School Leadership Review.*

**Ruffin, J.F. (2022).** A Tale of Three Teachers: Portraits of inequity, education, and

perseverance during the covid-19 pandemic. *American Educational History Journal*.

**Ruffin, J.F. (2020).** Missed Opportunities: Reflections and Regrets of a Brand-New Professor.

*Transformations:**The Journal of Inclusive Scholarship and Pedagogy.*

**Book Chapters**

**Ruffin, J.F.** (Accepted for Publication). Teaching from a place of love: Navigating the online diversity course against the backdrop of socio-political chaos. In S. McCarter and D. Davis (Eds.), *Breakthrough: From Pandemic to Promising Practice.* Information Age Publishing*.*

**PRESENTATIONS**

**Professional Presentations** *(\* denotes student co-presenter)*

**International**

**Ruffin, J.F., Johnson, K., Evans, L. (2021, August).** *From Mishaps to Magnificence: Supporting*

*School Leaders through the Pandemic and Beyond*. Roundtable Session to the International Council of Professors of Educational Leadership Virtual Conference.

**\*Ruffin, J.F., Wise, J. (2021, August).** *Developing Culturally Proficient Leaders Through Self*

*Reflection, Discourse, and Transformative Learning***.** Presentation to the International Council of

Professors of Educational Leadership Virtual Conference

**Ruffin, J.F. (2020, August 6).** *Disturbing the Peace: Encouraging Critical Dialogue through online*

*discussions****.*** Best practice session to the International Council of Professors of Educational

Leadership Virtual Conference.

**Gantner, M., Kimbrel, L., Evans, G., Davis, C., Ruffin, J.F., Nixon, A. (2020, August 6).**

*Collaboration for Research, Program Improvement and Expanded Learning.*Best practice

session to the International Council of Professors of Educational Leadership Virtual Conference.

**National**

**Ruffin, J.F. (2020, October 3).** *Stalling with Deliberate Speed:**An Examination of Southern Resistance*

*to School Desegregation in the 15 Years After Brown v. Board of Education****.*** Paper presented at

the Organization of Educational Historians Annual Meeting.

**Ruffin, J.F. (2019, June 18).** *Voting Matters: Education, Race, and Equality in the 21st Century.*

Presentation to the National Civil Rights Conference. Birmingham, Alabama.

**Regional**

**Ruffin, J., Simon, M. (2022, January).** *Creating safe spaces: Examining teaching and learning in a*

*doctoral diversity course through reflective assignments.* Paper Presentation to the Georgia

Gwinnett College Teaching, Learning, and Research Symposium.

**Evans, G., Ruffin, J. (2021, October).** *Equity in a Rural School District***.** Paper Presentation to the Georgia Educational Research Association

**Invited Presentations**

**Ruffin, J.F. (2021).** School Segregation in the South. Invited to present to the Youth Vote Podcast.

**Ruffin, J.F. (2021**). Snapshots of History: Portraits of the 21st Century Pandemic. Invited to present to the

Organization of Educational Historian annual convening.

**COURSES TAUGHT**

**Graduate Level**

\*EDSI 9923 The Culturally Proficient Leader (Fall 2019, Spring 2021, Spring 2022)

\*EDLE 8329 Leadership for Equity and Excellence (Fall 2019, Fall 2020, Fall 2021, Spring 2022)

EDLE 7312 School and Community Engagement (Summer, 2022)

EDLE 6341 Using Data to Improve the School (Spring 2020, Summer 2021)

\*EDLE 6316 School Law, Policy, and Ethics (Fall 2019, Spring 2020, Summer 2020, Fall 2020, Spring 2021, Summer 2021, Fall 2021, Spring 2022).

**\***Redesigned courses

**STUDENT COMMITTEE WORK**

**UWG Doctoral Dissertation Committees**

1. E. Hayden, Ed.D. School Improvement, University of West Georgia, Chair (Current)
2. L. Stephenson, Ed.D. School Improvement, University of West Georgia, Chair (Current)
3. P. Miller, Ed.D. School Improvement, University of West Georgia, Committee Member (Current)
4. J.Hutchens, Ed.D. School Improvement, University of West Georgia, Committee Member (Current)
5. J. Woodall, Ed.D. School Improvement, University of West Georgia, Committee Member (Current)

**Masters Thesis Committees**

1. Matthew Sines, Music Education, University of West Georgia (Graduated May 2021)
2. Davion Battle, Music Education, University of West Georgia (Graduated May 2020)

**SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT CONSULTING  
  
Organizations**

2021 Columbus Technical College

2021 Sumter County Schools, South Carolina

2019 Georgia Department of Juvenile Justice

**SERVICE**

**University**

2022-Present Office of University of West Georgia General Council Title IX Advisor

2021 Truman Scholar Mock Interview Judge Panel, University of West Georgia, Judge

**College**

2022 College of Education Personnel Committee, Member

2022 Dag Folger Book Club Facilitator

2022 EDSI Dissertation Topic and Research Faculty Panel

2022 EDSI Application Reviewer

2022 Dissertation of the Year Reviewer

2021 EDSI Application Reviewer

2021 EDSI Dissertation Topic and Research Faculty Panel

2020-Present College of Education Diversity Committee, Member

2020-Present UWG EDSI External Reviewer

2019-Present School Improvement Advisory Committee, Member

**Department**

2022 Educational Leadership Social Media Organizer

2022 Educational Leadership Faculty Search, University of West Georgia, Equity Advisor

2020 Educational Leadership Faculty Search, University of West Georgia, Committee Member

**Professional**

2022 International Counsel of Professors of Educational Leadership Conference Proposal Reviewer

2021 Georgia Gwinnett College Teaching, Learning, and Research Symposium, Submission

Reviewer

2021 National Youth Advocacy and Resilience Conference, Submission Reviewer

2021-Present *Journal of School Leadership,* Manuscript Reviewer

2021-Present *Education Leadership Review,* Manuscript Reviewer

2020-Present *Education Leadership Review of Doctoral Research,* Manuscript Reviewer

**PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

Organization of Educational Historians (OEH)

Georgia Association of Personnel Administrators Doctorate (GASPA)

Georgia Association of Educational Leaders (GAEL)

**COMPUTER PROFICIENCIES**

Microsoft Office (Outlook, Power Point, Excel, Word)

Google Suite

Course Den

Qualtrics

SurveyMonkey

Atlas.ti