

ROBERT C. K. HARPER, Ed.D.

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ACADEMIC BACKGROUND

Doctor of Education (2008)

Major: Developmental Education

Grambling State University, Grambling, Louisiana

Concentration: Instructional Systems and Technology

Dissertation Title: *Developmental Students' Cognitive Styles, Attitudes, Learning Behaviors, and Motivation in Two-Year Colleges in East Texas*

Specialist in Education (2004)

Major: Educational Leadership and Instruction

Northwestern State University of Louisiana, Natchitoches, Louisiana

Concentration: Educational Technology

Master of Education (2003)

Major: Education

Northwestern State University of Louisiana, Natchitoches, Louisiana

Concentration: Educational Technology

Bachelor of Science (2000)

Major: General Business Administration

Louisiana State University in Shreveport, Shreveport, Louisiana

APPOINTMENTS & POSITIONS

2019 - Present	<u>CEO, Helping Others Prioritize Education (HOPE) Initiative, Dallas, Texas</u> Responsibilities include providing strategic direction for educational institutions and youth serving organizations to help them achieve various goals. Duties include overseeing a variety of professional assignments to assist colleges and universities with the development, implementation, and maintenance of higher education programs. Also responsible for providing solutions to systematic problems, leading strategic planning efforts, conducting evaluation and program assessments and interfacing with stakeholders.
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- 2017 - 2019 Vice President of Programs, HELP Consulting, College Station, Texas
Responsibilities included providing leadership and oversight to planning, development, implementation, and evaluation of the organization's programs and initiatives. Duties included implementing long-range plans and ensuring that all programs align with the organization's strategic goals, mission, and vision, while fostering innovation, efficiency, and impact.
- 2016 - 2017 Executive Dean of Student Engagement and Retention, Eastfield College, Mesquite, Texas
Responsibilities included providing leadership to all facets of the college's student engagement and retention programs (which consists of over 30 full and part-time staff members). Duties included providing leadership for programs and services for all students through the delivery of new student orientation, academic advising, service learning, career services, student travel, peer mentoring, clubs and organizations, intramural sports, and the Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP). Also responsible for enrollment management efforts, persistence and graduation rates, strategic planning initiatives, and coordination of learning communities.
- 2012 - 2016 Assistant to the Vice President of Academic Affairs/Dean of Lower College, Texas College, Tyler, Texas
Responsibilities included providing leadership to the lower division of a four-year institution (which consists of over 25 full- and part-time faculty and staff members) in the administration of academic operations and student success and completion initiatives. Duties included providing supervision of general core curriculum, leadership for strategic academic planning, and oversight of Quality Enhancement Plan, academic advising, placement testing, and First- and Second-Year Experience. Additional responsibilities include giving oversight to disability services, co-curricular activities, student grievance procedures, career development activities, and academic development programs.
- 2012 - Present Adjunct Faculty, Texas College, Tyler, Texas
Responsibilities include providing instruction at the undergraduate level for the Division of Education.
- 2011 - 2012 Associate Vice President for Student Services, Jarvis Christian College, Hawkins, Texas
Responsibilities included providing leadership and oversight to the Student Services Division (which included over 20 full and part-time staff members) in the administration of all functions associated with student services. Duties included supervising student success initiatives, admissions and recruitment, career and counseling services, disability services, student leadership and activities, student organizations, and student discipline.
- 2012 Adjunct Faculty, Texas A&M University—Texarkana, Texarkana, Texas
Responsibilities included part-time instruction at the graduate level for the College of Education.

- 2010 - 2011 Director of Enrollment Management, Jarvis Christian College, Hawkins, Texas
Responsibilities included providing supervision to the Enrollment Management Department (which included over 10 full and part-time staff members) in developing and implementing strategic direction to ensure enrollment of a diverse pool of students. Duties included implementing best practice enrollment management strategies, coordinating articulation agreements, analyzing enrollment data trends, and directing departmental operations and services to internal and external constituencies.
- 2009 - 2010 Director of Student Development and Diversity, Northeast Texas Community College, Mt. Pleasant, Texas
Responsibilities included providing leadership and direction for a comprehensive co-curricular student experience to meet the personal, professional, social, intellectual, and cultural needs of all students. Duties included supervising student activities, student organizations, housing programming, leadership development programming and intramural sports as well as advising and registering students, recruiting for the college, and teaching first year experience courses. Also responsible for providing guidance in the implementation of diversity initiatives, minority content courses, and cultural programs aimed at increasing cultural inclusion and appreciation of diversity.
- 2007 - 2009 Director of Institutional Effectiveness, Northeast Texas Community College, Mt. Pleasant, Texas
Responsibilities included providing information and analysis to support administrative decision making, strategic planning, and budget development. Duties included leading campus-wide assessment and accreditation efforts, coordinating academic and non-academic program reviews, and facilitating institutional research activities in the management, analysis, interpretation, and reporting of various data.
- 2007-2009 Adjunct Faculty, Northeast Texas Community College, Mt. Pleasant, Texas
Responsibilities included part-time instruction at the lower-division level for incoming freshmen.
- 2007-2008 Coordinator for Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs (GEAR UP), Northeast Texas Community College, Mt. Pleasant, Texas
Responsibilities included implementing and coordinating comprehensive pre-college programs for low-income, first-generation students. Duties included conducting college awareness events, partnering with local school districts for recruitment, collaborating across institutional divisions in support of student success, and delivering on-site services promoting support programs at assigned high school campuses.

- 2005-2007 Coordinator of Instructional Technology (Title III), Northeast Texas Community College, Mt. Pleasant, Texas
Responsibilities included leading, planning, and evaluating the development and implementation of instructional technology services in support of effective faculty teaching. Duties included supervising a staff of instructional technology and multimedia specialists (which included 5 staff members), overseeing the administration of distance learning course offerings, and coordinating off-campus and continuing education courses.
- 2003-2004 Adjunct Faculty, Northwestern State University of Louisiana, Natchitoches, Louisiana
Responsibilities included part-time instruction at the undergraduate level for incoming freshmen.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- November 2011 William R. Harvey Leadership Institute Fellow
Hampton University
Hampton, VA
- October 2008 Community College Student Development Leadership Institute
National Council on Student Development
Albany, NY

ACHIEVEMENTS, HONORS & LISTINGS

- 2024 WIOA National Advisory Council, National Skills Coalition, Washington DC
- 2021 Silver Anvil Award, Public Relations Society of America, New Orleans, Louisiana
- 2019 Featured Speaker, College & Career Readiness, 4-H, Linden, Texas
- 2018 Featured Speaker, Academic, Safety & Skills Summer Camp, Atlanta High School Athletics, Atlanta, Texas
- 2018 Featured Speaker, Youth Adventure Summer Camp, Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas
- 2017 Keynote Speaker, Upward Bound, Southern University at Shreveport, Shreveport, Louisiana
- 2017 Featured Speaker, Youth Adventure Summer Camp, Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas
- 2016 Featured Speaker, Youth Adventure Summer Camp, Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas
- 2015 Featured Speaker, Career Day, Linden-Kildare High School, Linden, Texas

2013 Featured Speaker, Male Leadership Academy, Bell Elementary, Tyler, Texas

2013 Featured Speaker, ACE Afterschool Program, DeSoto West Middle School, DeSoto, Texas

2012 Featured Speaker, Impact Night, Ft. Worth Boys & Girls Club, Ft. Worth, Texas

2012 Liaison for Historically Black Colleges and Universities, Texas Association of Black Personnel in Higher Education, Austin, Texas

2012 Featured Speaker, Black History Month, Orr Elementary, Tyler, Texas

2011 Executive Leadership Summit, Hampton University, Hampton, Virginia

2011 Featured Speaker, Black History Month, Big Sandy Elementary, Big Sandy, Texas

2009 Featured Speaker, Black History Month, Hughes Spring Elementary, Hughes Spring, Texas

2008 Community College Student Development Leadership Institute, National Council on Student Development, Albany, New York

2008 Featured in State of Texas Mentoring Toolkit, Texas Education Agency, Austin, Texas

2007 Consortium Leadership and Renewal Academy, North Texas Community College Consortium, Denton, Texas

2004 Graduate Assistantship, Educational Leadership Department, Grambling State University, Grambling, Louisiana

2002 Graduate Assistantship, College of Education, Northwestern State University of Louisiana, Natchitoches, Louisiana

REFEREED PUBLICATIONS

Journal Articles

- Tarlton, E., **Harper, R.**, Blessett, B., Williams, B. & Carter, J. (2020). Addressing Social Inequity: A Case Study of Success. *Journal of Public Management & Social Policy*.
- Flowers, A., Robinson, P., Bonner, F., **Harper, R.**, & Tarlton, E. (2014). Still Leaving Black Males Behind: Revisiting Debunking the Myths Meritocratic Education; A Policy Focus on Black Males in P-20 Schooling Context. *The National Journal of Urban Education & Practice*.
- Flowers, A., **Harper, R.**, & Lopez, A. (2014). Nontraditional Students of Color Integrating Teaching and Technology. *PAACE Journal of Lifelong Learning*.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Draw-Hood, R., Hunt, T. & **Harper, R** (August, 2023) *Social Justice Summits: Enriches Youth and Strengthening Communities through Civic Engagement*, National Urban Extension Leaders Southern & 1890's Regional Conference, Houston, Texas

Harper, R (April, 2023) *Activating Social Justice for Our Present and Future Social Generations*, Texas Tech University, Lubbock, Texas

Harper, R (April, 2022) *A Conversation on Social Justice*, Student African American Brotherhood (SAAB), St. Louis, Missouri

Harper, R (April, 2022) *Social Justice, Advocacy Leadership, and Ethics*, Texas Tech University, Lubbock, Texas

Harper, R., Bonner, F., & Matthews, B. (March, 2021) *Competency, Community, & Collaboration: Working with Higher Education Partners to Change the Perception of Social Justice and Building Trust on Campuses and in Communities*, Texas Alliance of Black School Educators, Virtual

Tarlton, E. & **Harper, R.** (March, 2019) *College & Career Readiness*, Louisiana Student Success Conference, New Orleans, Louisiana

Harper, R. & Lowry, K. (November, 2016) *Retaining Targeted Student Groups*, Entering Student Success Institute (Center for Community College Student Engagement), San Antonio, Texas

Lowry, K., Wilson, D. & **Harper, R.** (October, 2016) *Black Male Success*, National Council on Black American Affairs, Dallas, Texas

Tarlton, E. & **Harper, R.** (May, 2014) *Lifting the Academic Veil*, New Directions/New Horizons Program (Round Rock ISD), Round Rock, Texas

Harper, R. (November, 2013) *Dream Builder Academic Counseling: A G.A.M.E. Plan to Promote Academic Success*, MEN LEADERSHIP Conference—Mountain View College, Dallas, Texas

Harper, R. (April, 2013) *Establishing a Framework for Success: Understanding the Unique Characteristics of Black Millennial Male Students*, Student African American Brotherhood (SAAB), Indianapolis, Indiana

Harper, R. & Goodwyn, L. (February, 2013) *Best Practices for Millennial Developmental Learners: Strategies for Pioneering Educators*. National Association for Developmental Education, Denver, Colorado

Harper, R. & Tarlton, E. (February, 2013) *Recruitment: The High School/College Disconnect*, American Association of Blacks in Higher Education, Atlanta, Georgia

Harper, R. (November, 2012) *Best Practices for Black Millennial Males at Small, Private Historically Black Colleges*, Texas Higher Education Journal, Austin, Texas

Harper, R. & Tarlton, E. (April, 2012) *Preparing for the Academy: Connecting the Dots to Success!*, Student African American Brotherhood (SAAB), Indianapolis, Indiana

Harper, R. & Dickens, R. (March, 2012) *Diverse Millennial Students: Are We Helping Students or Holding Their Hands?* Texas Association of Black Personnel in Higher Education, Dallas, Texas

Harper, R. (September, 2009) *Brother-to-Brother: Peer Mentoring Program*, Texas Gear UP, Houston, Texas

Harper, R. & Ogunyemi, O. (February, 2009) *Developmental Students' Cognitive Styles, Attitudes, Learning Behaviors, and Motivation in Two-Year Colleges in East Texas*, National Association for Developmental Education, Greensboro, North Carolina

RESEARCH GRANTS, CONTRACTS & PROJECTS

(Running Grant Total: \$1,214,600)

Robert Harper (*Principal Investigator*) “Building Safer Communities” City of Ft. Worth Crime Control and Prevention District Grant (\$300,000), Summer 2025

Robert Harper (*Principal Investigator*) “Youth Football” National Football League Foundation, Summer Camp Grant (\$2,000), Summer 2025

Robert Harper (*Principal Investigator*) “Social Justice” Walmart Spark Good Local Grant (\$10,000), Spring 2025

Robert Harper (*Principal Investigator*) “Social Justice” National Football League Foundation, Player Matching Grant (\$10,000), Spring 2025

Robert Harper (*Principal Investigator*) “Graduate Recruitment” Prairie View A&M University Contract (\$135,000), Spring 2025

Robert Harper (*Principal Investigator*) “Shop With A Cop: Community-Police Relations” Ft. Worth Police Department Donations (\$68,370), Fall 2024

Robert Harper (*Principal Investigator*) “Youth Violence Prevention and Youth Development Initiative” Players Coalition Charitable Foundation Grant (\$25,000), Fall 2024

Robert Harper (*Principal Investigator*) “Youth Football” National Football League Foundation, Summer Camp Grant (\$2,000), Summer 2024

Robert Harper (*Principal Investigator*) “Youth Development for Ft. Worth” Harbourview Foundation (\$25,000), Spring 2024

Robert Harper (*Principal Investigator*) “Beyond Hoop Dreams: College & Career Readiness” National Basketball Association Foundation (\$25,000), Spring 2024

Robert Harper (*Principal Investigator*) “Social Justice” National Football League Foundation, Player Matching Grant (\$10,000), Spring 2024

Robert Harper (*Principal Investigator*) “Regional Entrepreneurship and Equity Initiative” St. Tammany Parish Development District (\$43,500), Fall 2023

Robert Harper (*Principal Investigator*) “Youth Football” National Football League Foundation, Summer Camp Grant (\$2,000), Summer 2023

Robert Harper (*Principal Investigator*) “Undergraduate Recruitment” Texas A&M University Texarkana Contract (\$95,000), Spring 2023

Robert Harper (*Principal Investigator*) “Social Justice” National Football League Foundation, Player Matching Grant (\$10,000), Spring 2023

Robert Harper (*Principal Investigator*) “Pathways for Success” Hogg Foundation for Mental Health Grant (\$54,000), Fall 2022

Robert Harper (*Subcontractor*) “Dream Big College Readiness Program” Prairie View A&M University, Powell Foundation (\$120,000), Spring 2022

Robert Harper (*Principal Investigator*) “Social Justice” National Football League Foundation, Player Matching Grant (\$10,000), Spring 2022

Robert Harper (*Principal Investigator*) “Youth Football” National Football League Foundation, Summer Camp Grant (\$3,000), Summer 2022

Robert Harper (*Principal Investigator*) “College, Career & Life Readiness” City of Daingerfield, TX Grant (\$10,000), Spring 2022

Robert Harper (*Principal Investigator*) “Community-Police Relations” City of Linden, TX Grant (\$10,000), Summer 2021

Robert Harper (*Principal Investigator*) “Youth Football” National Football League Foundation, Summer Camp Grant (\$3,000), Summer 2021

Robert Harper (*Principal Investigator*) “Social Justice” National Football League Foundation, Player Matching Grant (\$10,000), Spring 2021

Robert Harper (*Principal Investigator*) “Social Justice” National Football League Foundation, Player Matching Grant (\$45,000), Spring 2020

Robert Harper (*Co-Principal Investigator*) “Social Justice” National Football League Foundation, Player Matching Grant (\$160,000), Spring 2019

Robert Harper (*Co-Principal Investigator*) “Youth Football” National Football League Foundation, Summer Camp Grant (\$1,500), Summer 2018

Robert Harper (*Principal Investigator*) “AVID Implementation” Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, AVID Postsecondary Project Grant (\$5,000), Summer 2015

Robert Harper (*Principal Investigator*) “AVID Implementation” Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, AVID Postsecondary Project Grant (\$11,000), Spring 2014

Robert Harper (*Principal Investigator*) “Work-Study Mentorship Program” Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, Tutoring Grant (\$50,000), Fall 2013

Robert Harper (*Principal Investigator*) “AVID Implementation” Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, AVID Postsecondary Project Grant (\$10,000), Spring 2013

Robert Harper (*Principal Investigator*) “Mobile Go Center” Texas Pioneer Foundation, Recruitment Grant (\$104,730), Spring 2011

Robert Harper & Janice Toliver-King (*Co-Principal Investigators*) “Screening and Information Resource Center” Morehouse College, School of Medicine 2011, HBCU Behavioral Health Capacity Expansion Mini-Grant (\$7,500), Fall 2011

Robert Harper (*Principal Investigator*) “Project Stop Now” U.S. Dept. of Justice, Office on Violence Against Women, Mini-Grant (\$2,000), 2011-2012

Robert Harper (*Principal Investigator*) “Closing the Gaps: Increasing Higher Education Awareness” Walmart Community Grant (\$1,500), Spring 2010

Robert Harper (*Principal Investigator*) “Increasing Access to Technology” Technology Community Mini-Grant (\$1,500), Spring 2010