AMSC's Dr. Kenja McCray Leads Team in Publishing Tributes to Late Historian

The scholarly manuscript titled "Remembering Jacqueline Anne Rouse, 1950–2020: Scholarship, Educational Advocacy, and Mentoring as Audacious Leadership" has been published in the *Journal of the Georgia Association of Historians*, March 2021. Kenja McCray, Ph.D., Associate Professor of History in the School of Social Sciences and Humanities and program coordinator of environmental justice initiatives at Atlanta Metropolitan State College (AMSC), served as the article's lead author. Clark Atlanta University's Charmayne E. Patterson, Ph.D. and Southern University and A&M College's Christy Garrison-Harrison, Ph.D. co-authored the piece.

Dr. Rouse's death highlighted the importance of the present era as an inflection point in African American women's history and signaled the urgency of remembering the pioneers who birthed and molded the field. McCray, Patterson, and Garrison-Harrison explore how Rouse utilized groundbreaking scholarship, supportive instruction, and strong mentorship to claim places and hold spaces for her students. The article combines a review of Rouse's scholarship with students' and advisees' oral and written statements to explore the professor's legacies of advocacy and



Dr. Jacqueline A. Rouse (center) with Karcheik Sims-Alvarado, Charmayne Patterson, Christy Garrison-Harrison, and Kenja McCray at the 2015 ASALH conference in Atlanta mentorship. Drawing on previous studies of vanguard Black women history makers, the authors conclude that Rouse was an exceptional educator who embodied what they call a form of "audacious leadership" from which others can learn instructive lessons.

The journal article builds on testimonies Dr. McCray originally curated for a special issue newsletter of the Association of Black Women Historians (ABWH) in August 2020. Dr. Rouse was an early leader within ABWH who taught at Georgia State University for 29 years. The edition highlights her life and legacy.

Consty Garnson-Harson, and Kenja McCray at the 2015 ASALH conterence in Atlanta The special newsletter edition can be found at: http://abwh.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/Special-Issue-Dr.-Jacqueline-A.-Rouse-8.15.20-1.pdf