Zach Jenkins, PhD, MPH, CPH

915 Greene Street | Discovery I Room 235
Columbia, SC 29201
T: 803-777-4788
Jenki275@mailbox.sc.edu
LinkedIn

EDUCATION

Doctor of Philosophy in Education Administration 2024
University of South Carolina – Columbia, SC
Dissertation Title: Black MPH Internship Experiences in Racialized Organizations: Critical Counter-narratives for a More Racially Just Public Health Workforce

Master of Public Health: Physical Activity and Public Health 2017
University of South Carolina – Columbia, SC
Practicum: Evaluation of a Children's Physical Activity Data Set. Policy Practices in Youth Programs, Arnold School of Public Health, University of South Carolina

Bachelor of Science in Applied Science 2015
Youngstown State University – Youngstown, OH
Internship: Transitions and Activity Changes in Kids (TRACK). Children's Physical Activity Research Group, Arnold School of Public Health, University of South Carolina

PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

Director of Applied Practice
Arnold School of Public Health, University of South Carolina – Columbia, SC 2023 – present

- Lead strategic planning and continuous improvement efforts for applied practice programming serving five MPH concentrations.
- Develop and manage partnerships with public health agencies, healthcare organizations, and community stakeholders to expand experiential learning opportunities.
- Oversee experiential learning operations and CEPH competency assessment processes for all MPH students.
- Design and implement workforce development initiatives that strengthen student career readiness and employer engagement.
- Supervise professional staff and graduate assistants while managing operational goals, data systems, and program assessment activities.
- Lead the annual Integrating Perspectives Panel, supporting CEPH interprofessional education requirements across MPH programs.
- Collaborate with faculty to align core MPH curriculum, experiential learning, and competency assessment.
- Apply design-thinking methodologies to improve student engagement, career readiness, and experiential learning outcomes.

MPH Core Course Coordinator
Arnold School of Public Health, University of South Carolina – Columbia, SC 2021 – 2023

- Served as the primary point of contact for the Master of Public Health (MPH) core courses and liaison between the core course team of instructors and Dean's Office Representatives
- Coordinated instructor team meetings, mid-term and end-of-term assessment documentation
- Facilitated synergy between face-to-face and online sections of the course

- ∝ Ensured Foundational Competencies and Foundational Knowledge remain integral parts of the course instruction

Workforce Development Associate
Arnold School of Public Health, University of South Carolina – Columbia, SC 2017 – 2023

- ∝ Coordinated experiential learning initiatives for MPH students
- ∝ Served as liaison between South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control and Arnold School of Public Health regarding the placement of graduate assistants under the Post-Graduate Contract
- ∝ Fostered relationships between Employers and the Arnold School of Public Health
- ∝ Provided quantitative and qualitative practice and placement evaluation reports

Changing Carolina Peer Leader Graduate Assistant
Arnold School of Public Health, University of South Carolina – Columbia, SC 2015 – 2017

- ∝ Assisted with strategic planning and development of Changing Carolina Peer Leader Program (CCPL) program
- ∝ Served as CCPL executive board advisor
- ∝ Supervised logistics of presentations and outreach efforts
- ∝ Served as Teaching Assistant for HPEB 302

FACULTY APPOINTMENTS

Adjunct Faculty 2022 – present
Department of Health Promotion Education and Behavior
Arnold School of Public Health
University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC
HPEB 300 Planning Health Promotion Programs

Adjunct Faculty 2024 – 2026
Department of Leadership Learning Design and Inquiry
College of Education
University of South Carolina, Columbia SC
EDLP 317: Law and Policy Studies in Education

Instructor 2018 – 2022
University 101Programs
University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC
University 101 Programs UNIV 101: The Student in the University

Teaching Assistant 2019 – 2022
Office of Public Health Practice and Workforce Development
University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC
PUBH 700 Introduction to Public Health

RESEARCH AFFILIATIONS

Research Advisor 2026 – present
Researching and Mapping Supports for Work-Based Learning
University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI

- ∝ Participate in planning and implementation meetings
- ∝ Advise on survey design and data interpretation

- ∝ Provide feedback on institutional and national reports (with potential to coauthor future publications)
- ∝ Identify and engage campus stakeholders to support recruitment, collaboration, and dissemination activities

Research Affiliate
Center for Research on College-Workforce Transitions
University of Wisconsin Madison, WI

- ∝ Review and provide feedback on Center for Research on College-Workforce Transitions research initiatives and competitive programming.
- ∝ Present at a CCWT-sponsored event
- ∝ Collaborate with CCWT to serve historically marginalized communities and foster fairness, equity, and inclusion in workforce transition outcomes

LEADERSHIP POSITIONS

Treasurer, South Carolina Public Health Association 2026 – present
Principal Investigator, Graduate Placement Contract Between Arnold School of Public Health and South Carolina Department of Public Health ($500,000) 2022 – present
Vice President Alliance of Latinx and Black Graduate Students 2021 – 2024
Co-secretary of Graduate Assistants: Graduate Student Associations 2020 – 2021
Transportation Logistics Director, Governor's Cup Committee 2023 – present
Course Coordinator, PUBH 678: Transforming Healthcare 2023

AWARDS & RECOGNITION

Recognition of Teaching Excellence, Arnold School of Public Health, HPEB 300 (Spring) 2026
Top 25 Career Influencer, University of South Carolina 2025
Recognition of Teaching Excellence, Arnold School of Public Health, HPEB 300 (Fall) 2025
Recognition of Teaching Excellence, Arnold School of Public Health, HPEB 300 (Spring) 2025
Staff Excellence Award Nominee, University of South Carolina 2025
Career Influencer Certificate Awardee, University of South Carolina 2024
Access & Collective Engagement Alumni Award 2024
Graduate Student Association Certificate of Excellence 2021
M. Stuart Hunter Award for Outstanding Teaching in University 101, Nominee 2021
M. Stuart Hunter Award for Outstanding Teaching in University 101, Nominee 2020
M. Stuart Hunter Award for Outstanding Teaching in University 101, Nominee 2019
M. Stuart Hunter Award for Outstanding Teaching in University 101, Nominee 2018
Nominee, Delta Omega Honorary Society in Public Health, Mu Chapter 2018 – present
AFLAC Fellowship Recipient 2015 – 2017

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Discover USC Reviewer 2026
ASPH-GREAT Technical Assistance Collaboration 2026 – present
Maternal and Child Health Catalyst Advisory Committee 2025 – present
Exercise is Medicine Committee 2025 – present
SC Honors College Thesis Second Reader: An Asset Based Approach to How Essential Workers Promote and Advance the Health and Wellbeing of Students and Staff 2025
Member, University of South Carolina Executive Director of Community Engagement Search 2025
SCPHA Mentorship Program (Mentor to Two Students) 2024 – 2025
Mentorship Hub Match Mentor 2024
Member, South Carolina Public Health Association (SCPHA) 2024 – present

Teaching Internship Supervisor: HPEB 300	2024
USC Medical School Physician Assistant Annual Guest Lecturer	2024 – 2025
Member, Arnold School of Public Health Public Health Practice Advisory Council	2023 – present
Internship Supervisor for Undergraduate Public Health Senior Capstone	2023
Member, PH Spot	2023 – 2025
Member, MPH Core Curriculum Subcommittee	2022 – 2025
Youngstown State University Exercise Science Club Career Exploration Panel Member	2022
U101 Peer Leader Interview Evaluator	2022
Chair, ASPH MPH Professional Development Committee	2021 – 2023
U101 Communications Committee Member	2021
U101 Faculty Alumni Panel	2021
MPH Alumni Panel PUBH 730	2021
U101 Peer Leader Interview Evaluator	2021

PUBLICATIONS

1. **Jenkins, Z**. (2026). *The Case Against Ending Unpaid Internships: Interest Convergence, Brown v Board of Education and Internships.* [Unpublished Manuscript]. Office of Public Health Practice and Workforce Development.
2. Hopkins, K., Greene, S., **Jenkins, Z.**, Yao, C. (2026) **"**It's like you're always an outsider": International student spouses' meaning making of identities in the U.S. *Journal of Global Higher Education*. *2*(2). https://doi.org/10.25774/jghe.v2i2.335
3. **Jenkins, Z**., & Yao, C. (2025). A Critique of Race-Neutrality Discourse Among Internship Benefits: A Critical Discourse Analysis. *Education + Training*, *67*(2), 171-183 . https://doi.org/10.1108/ET-09-2024-0445
4. **Jenkins, Z.** (2024). Black MPH Internship Experiences in Racialized Organizations: Critical Counter-narratives for a More Racially Just Public Health Workforce. [Doctoral dissertation, University of South Carolina].
5. Tran, H., & **Jenkins, Z.** (2023). Cultivating Humanized and Inclusive Workplaces with Talent-centered Education Leadership. In *Leadership in turbulent times: Cultivating diversity and inclusion in the P-12 Education Workplace*. Emerald Publishing Limited, Bingley, 149-166. https://doi.org/10.1108/978-1-80382-197-920231010
6. Tran, H., **& Jenkins, Z.** (2022). Embracing the Future of Education Work with Talent Centered Education Leadership *Journal of Education Human Resources 40*(2), 266-276. https://doi.org/10.3138/jehr-2021-0051

PRESENTATIONS

1. **Jenkins, Z.** (2026). The Rising Practitioner Distinction: A Proposal to Leverage the Octalysis Framework to Enhance MPH Student Career Readiness. Association for Schools and Public Health Programs Annual Meeting, Baltimore, MD. Under Review.
2. **Jenkins, Z.** (2024). Leveraging Design Thinking for Crafting Meaningful Internship Experiences. Center for Research on College-Workforce Transitions Fall Conference: Amplifying Student Voices: Advancing Career Wellness & Success. Madison, WI.
3. Yao, C., Greene, S., Harshe, G., **Jenkins, Z.**, Sediqi, Z. (2024). From Global to Local: Rethinking Support Systems for USC's International Community. University of South Carolina Graduate Education Summit. Columbia, SC.
4. **Jenkins, Z.** (2023). A Critique of Race-Neutrality Discourse Among Internship Benefits: A Critical Discourse Analysis. Association for the Study of Higher Education Annual Meeting. Minneapolis, MN.
5. **Jenkins, Z.** (2022). Critical Policy Analysis A Critical Policy Analysis of Unpaid Internships: Policy Failures and Opportunities for Universities. American Educational Research Association Annual Meeting. (Accepted).

6. **Jenkins, Z.** AERA (2021) Conference Cinematic Intersections (Get Out): You Want Our Talent, But Do You Want Us? Creating More Inclusive Education Work Spaces through Talent Centered Education Leadership. American Educational Research Association Annual Meeting. (Video Presentation).
7. **Jenkins, Z.** (2017). Practicum Presentation: Evaluation of a Children's Physical Activity Data Set. Practicum presentation delivered during Practicum Final Report, Columbia, SC.

INVITED LECTURES

8. **Jenkins, Z.** (2025). *Internships: A Vital Component of Career Readiness*. Midlands Technical College. Columbia, SC.
9. **Jenkins, Z.** (2025). *Internships are Important*. North Myrtle Beach Middle School. Horry, SC.
10. **Jenkins, Z.** (2024 – 2026). Public Health Lecture for Physician University of South Carolina Medical School Physician Assistant Program.

CERTIFICATIONS

Fundraising Essentials, Nonprofit Ready	2026
Financial Management Essentials Certificate	2026
Certified in Public Health (CPH), National Board of Public Health Examiners	2018
Introduction to the Incident Command System (ICS-100), FEMA	2015
National Incident Management System (NIMS), FEMA	2015

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

AAC&U Institute on Experiential Learning and Engaged Dialogue	2026
Career Champion III: Core Competency Development	2019
Career Champion II: Experience Outcomes	2019
Leadership Enrichment and Development (LEAD) II: Effective Management	2018
Leadership Enrichment and Development (LEAD) I: Supervisory Essentials	2018
Career Champion I: Career Outcomes	2017

SKILLS & UNIQUE TALENTS

Leadership & Administration
Culture Building
Adaptive Leadership
Critical Visionary Thinking
Creative Problem Solving
Collaboration
Facilitation
Career Counseling
Empowering Management

Research & Assessment
Qualitative Research
Program Evaluation
Data Analysis
Accreditation Assessment

Academic
Professional Writing (e.g., manuscripts, journal articles, briefs, etc.)
Public speaking (e.g., lectures, professional speaking, moderating, etc.)

Grant and Award Fund Management
Knowledge of University Policies and Procedures
Event Planning

Creativity
Songwriting
Podcast production, development, editing, scriptwriting, Audio recording
Content Creation

Technology
Microsoft Office 365
Microsoft Copilot
REDcap
SAS
SPSS
RStudio
NVivo
Canva
Articulate
Audacity
Adobe Creative Cloud
Movavi