TSU Communication Faculty Members Publish Book on Public School Desegregation


Desegregation in Houston began after the NAACP filed suit on behalf of Delores Ross and Beneva Williams against the Houston Independent School District (HISD) on December 26, 1956. That suit arose due to the slow pace of desegregation after the landmark case Brown v. Board of Education, but continued until November 1984, when the parties settled after 28 years of litigation.

The book analyzes the trends and themes in coverage for the entire time period with large-scale frame analysis. It also compares and contrasts the different types of news coverage provided by the mainstream newspapers and black weeklies during this period. The book later catalogues all available news articles and editorials of the Houston Chronicle, the city’s major mainstream daily newspaper during this time. Finally, the appendices show the interplay between the Houston school board’s actions and court decisions.

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Texas Southern University was founded in 1926 and became a state institution in 1947. Texas Southern possesses an impressive array of undergraduate and graduate programs, a diverse faculty, more than 80 student organizations, and an alumni network comprised of educators, entrepreneurs, public servants, lawyers, pilots, artists, and more, many of whom are change agents on the local, national and international stage. Nestled upon a sprawling 150-acre campus, Texas Southern has served as a cornerstone for developing the greatest potential in leaders from various socioeconomic, cultural, and racial backgrounds. Texas Southern is located in the heart of the city, giving its students and faculty easy access to the Museum District, neighboring educational institutions, the Texas Medical Center, downtown Houston, two major airports and all of the city's major freeways. More than 9,487 students, along with nearly 1,500 faculty and staff comprise the University’s community making it one of the nation’s largest Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU’s). For more information, visit www.tsu.edu.