



Texas State Library and Archives Commission hires communications officer

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AUSTIN, Texas – The Texas State Library and Archives Commission (TSLAC) has hired Derick Hackett as its new communications officer, according to TSLAC Director and Librarian Peggy Rudd.

“Derick joins us with a vast knowledge of media, public relations and marketing,” said Rudd. We are very pleased to have someone of his caliber and national reputation joining our team.”

Hackett formerly served as the director of student media at Southern University in Baton Rouge, La., from 1999 to 2008. He also served as the vice-chairman for the Black College Communications Association (BCCA) and a former faculty member at The New York Times Journalism Institute. Hackett was a weekend game day radio reporter for the Black College Sports Radio Network based in Atlanta and was the Southern University public address announcer at home men’s and women’s basketball contests, the Southwestern Athletic Conference (SWAC) Basketball Tournament.

His public relations and promotions experience also includes a stint as the University of Iowa’s women’s sports information director, in Iowa City, Iowa where he hosted Big Ten conference, NCAA regional and national events, and was responsible for the creation of media guides and daily press releases for all 12 Division I sports.

“Texas takes great pride in its libraries and archives,” said Hackett. “There is a tremendous amount of great projects, programs and outreach that will aid researchers and the general public. I look forward to making sure that they know about our services and programs.”

From 1993-1998, Hackett served as the sports information director (SID) at Alcorn State University in Lorman, Miss., providing publicity for all 16 Division I sports. He was the chairperson for the 1994-95 Steve "Air II" McNair Heisman Trophy campaign. Along with winning the Walter Payton Award for the best player in I-AA, his candidate finished third in the national voting ballot for the Heisman Trophy, still the highest finish for a player at a historically black college and from a I-AA school. McNair is the former Houston Oilers / Tennessee Titans and Baltimore Ravens quarterback.

During this time Hackett was named the SWAC’s SID of the Year twice and was the National Dead SID Society’s SID of the Year in 1994. From 1995 to 1999,

Hackett was a sports columnist and stringer for USA Today On-Line Sports Network covering the SWAC in football and basketball.

Hackett's educational background includes masters in mass communications and bachelors in print journalism from Southern University. He is a native of College Park, Ga.

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ABOUT TSLAC

TSLAC helps Texans find the information they seek. The people of Texas utilize TSLAC services and programs to effectively use information and materials that improve their lives, the lives of their families, and their communities. Since 1909, TSLAC has carried out a commitment of making information work for all Texans by providing history and genealogical services, federal and state government documents, electronic research, and library services to Texans of all ages who are unable to read standard print material due to visual, physical, or reading disabilities. For more information, go to <http://www.tsl.state.tx.us> or email pio@tsl.state.tx.us.