

Bio for Samuel Todd Brand, Ph.D.

Samuel “Todd” Brand has spent over two decades working in the field of higher education. Originally from Mendenhall, MS, Dr. Brand is currently serving in his fourth year as Chief Academic Officer at Ashland Community & Technical College in Ashland, Kentucky, supervising all academic programs on three campuses.

Prior to his service at ACTC, he served for over a decade as Division Chair of Fine Arts and Communication and as Arts & Letters Series Director at Meridian Community College in Meridian, Mississippi. Additionally, Dr. Brand has served as an assistant coach for three men’s basketball coaches during his tenure at the college, which began in 2002. While at MCC, he also completed a Ph.D. program in community college leadership at Mississippi State University.

Dr. Brand’s background is in television and radio. He has a Bachelor of Science degree in Mass Communication and a Master of Science degree in Communication from Mississippi College. Upon graduation from Mississippi College, he worked extensively in both television and radio. This included stints as on air talent for both ESPN Radio and 16 WAPT TV in Jackson, MS. He has provided color analysis for Madison Central Jaguars Football, play by play for Clinton Arrows Basketball, and color analysis for the Jackson Academy Raider Football and Basketball teams. He has also served as a part-time sports anchor for 16 WAPT TV.

From television and radio, Dr. Brand moved into the field of education. He began his career teaching and coaching in the K-12 system. At Brandon High School in Brandon, Mississippi, he helped lead the Bulldogs to a top 10 ranking, and he quickly moved to the community college level. Prior to working at Meridian Community College, he spent two years at East Central Community College in Decatur, Mississippi, where he served as a communication faculty member and as an assistant men’s basketball coach.

In 2010, Brand received the TJ Harris Award at Meridian Community College for outstanding community involvement. He was selected as Humanities Professor of the Year in 2011 by the MCC faculty, and he was part of the Mississippi Community College Leadership Academy’s class of 2014. In 2015, the Mississippi Alliance for Arts Education presented Brand with the Distinguished Arts Service Award for MCC’s partnership with the Lauderdale County School District. Dr. Brand was honored in 2016 as the Mississippi College Department of Communication’s Alumnus of the Year, and in 2021 he was a member of the class of fellows of the American Association of Community Colleges’ Future President’s Institute.

Dr. Brand currently resides in Ashland, Kentucky with his college sweetheart, Amy, and sons Noah, age 16, and Asher, age 10. Eli, their oldest son, lives in Durham, North Carolina and is employed as a critical care nurse at Duke University Hospital. The Brands attend Russell First Baptist Church in Russell, Kentucky where Dr. Brand serves as a member of the choir and a leader on the praise team. He is a member of the Marv Meredith Youth Basketball Board in Russell, the Russell-Flatwoods Little League Board, and he is a member of the Paramount Players; an acting troupe housed at the historic Paramount Arts Center in Ashland. In his spare time, Dr. Brand enjoys coaching youth basketball, powerlifting, acting, and reading.