

Attachment 4  
**Spencer D. Wood**  
**Statement of Candidacy for Faculty Senate President**  
**April 20, 2017**

I am honored to put my name forward as a candidate for Faculty Senate President. As we all know, the financial challenges facing higher education are enormous and test our capacity to deliver excellence in education, research, and outreach. We are fortunate that K-State values a system of shared governance in which faculty, staff, students, and administration work together. During these times of budgetary uncertainty, challenging political climates, and robust competition for students, it is critical that faculty accept the responsibilities, and the work this entails, to fully engage the oftentimes cumbersome process of joint leadership. I feel that it is our obligation if we hope to ensure that our voices are represented. I have a strong record of collaborating, listening, and embracing the responsibilities that come with leadership and I am eager to put my skills to work as President of Faculty Senate.

I received my Bachelor's in Social Work from what is now Missouri State University. I earned my MS in Rural Sociology and PhD in Sociology from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. After a three-year visiting position at Colorado College while finishing my PhD and starting a family, I accepted an offer to join the faculty here at K-State. I have an established track record of collaborative research and community engagement. While at Colorado College I received their Teaching Award for Innovation in Curricular Innovation. This was in recognition for a learning experience I developed and funded supporting experiential learning around Civil Rights and local history in Mississippi. I have published articles and chapters with community leaders, students, and academics from across the country and the academy. I have a strong record of national leadership. I currently am the editor of the Rural Sociological Society's Rural Studies Book Series. I am a member of the Administrative Council of the North Central Region of the USDA's Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education arm. The NCR-SARE is a competitive grants program involving a \$9 million annual budget. Finally, I was elected Secretary of the Rural Sociological Society. Here at K-State, I served for one year as the Interim Head of American Ethnic Studies. I have served on over 30 graduate committees and currently direct five dissertations and one MA thesis. I served on Faculty Senate consistently since May of 2014. I represented the Arts and Sciences Caucus on the Faculty Senate Committee on University Planning and was elected chair of that committee beginning in the Fall of 2015. Since then I have served on Faculty Senate Leadership under former President Guzek and current President Bennett.

Throughout my professional career, I have made a commitment to inclusivity, collaboration, and facilitating dialogue among groups with different interests and agendas. As faculty and professional staff, we have important differences, aspirations, needs. Facilitating respectful dialogue is central to letting our strongest ideas and most pressing needs percolate to the top. It is also a key to strengthening our voice as we work to make K-State a place that rewards our efforts toward delivering excellence in education, research, and outreach and sharing in the responsibility of university leadership.

## Curriculum Vitae

Spencer D. Wood, Ph. D.

April 2017

## EDUCATION:

- May 2006 Ph.D. Sociology, University of Wisconsin–Madison.  
Dissertation: *The Roots of Black Power: Land, Civil Society, and the State in the Mississippi Delta, 1935-1968*.  
Areas: Political Sociology and Sociology of Agriculture.  
Interests: Race and Ethnicity, Political Sociology, Inequality, Historical Sociology, Sociology of Agriculture, Community Development, Social Movements, and Sociology of Development.
- December 1991 Master of Science in Rural Sociology, University of Wisconsin–Madison.  
Thesis: *Autonomous Expert or “Power Elite” Member? Rexford G. Tugwell and the Creation of the U.S. Resettlement Administration in 1935*.
- May 1989 Bachelor of Social Work, Southwest Missouri State University, Springfield, Missouri (Magna Cum Laude).

## APPOINTMENTS:

- June 2013 – Present Associate Professor of Sociology, Department of Sociology, Anthropology, and Social Work, Kansas State University
- June 2012 – July 2013 Interim Director of American Ethnic Studies, Kansas State University
- August 2007 – May 2013 Assistant Professor of Sociology, Department of Sociology, Anthropology, and Social Work, Kansas State University
- Fall 2004 - Spring 2007 Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, Colorado College

## SELECTED PEER REVIEW PUBLICATIONS:

- king, Katrina Quisumbing, **Spencer D. Wood**, Jess Gilbert, and Marilyn Sinkewicz. *Revise and resubmit*. “Land Matters: The Significance of Black Farmland Ownership in the Rural South.”
- Jakubek Joseph, T., Jr., and **Spencer D. Wood**. 2017. *Forthcoming*. “Emancipatory Empiricism: The Rural Sociology of W.E.B. Du Bois.” *Journal of Race and Ethnicity*.
- White, M. Beth and **Spencer D. Wood**. 2016. “Targeted Student Engagement in Rural Communities: Pairing Select Students with Community Organizations to Link Service Learning and Community Based Research,” chapter in forthcoming edited volume, *The Landscape of Rural Service Learning and What it Teaches us All*, eds. Randy Stoecker, Nicholas Holten, and Charles Ganzert. Michigan State University Press.
- Miller, Michael, Gerad Middendorf, and **Spencer D. Wood**. 2015. “Food Availability in the Heartland: Exploring the Effects of Neighborhood Race and Income Composition.” *Rural Sociology*, 80(3)340-361, (Accepted December 2014).
- Wood, Spencer D.**, Joseph T. Jakubek, Jr., and Kristin Kelly. 2015. “You’ve Got to Fight to Be White: The Rural Foundation of the New Militia for Race Control,” *Contemporary Justice Review*. 18(May 2) (Accepted September 2013).
- Wood, Spencer D.** and Ricardo Samuel. 2012. “History as Community-Based Research and the Pedagogy of Discovery: Teaching Racial Inequality, Documenting Local History, and Building Links Between Students and Communities in Mississippi and Tennessee,” *Journal of Rural Social Science*, 27:2:32-49.
- Wood, Spencer D.** and Cheryl Ragar. 2012. “Grass Tops Democracy: Institutional Discrimination in the Civil Rights Violations of Black Farmers.” *Journal of Pan African Studies*, 5:6(September)16-36.
- Grant, Gary R., **Spencer D. Wood**, and Willie J. Wright. 2012. “Black Farmers United: The Struggle Against Powers and Principalities,” *Journal of Pan African Studies*, 5:1(March)3-22.
- Wood, Spencer D.**, and Ricardo Samuel. 2010. “‘He Was Non-Violent but My Boys Weren’t’: The Hegemonic Myth of Non-Violence and the Construction of a Black Identity,” *Arkansas Review: A Journal of Delta Studies* 41:155-169.

## Attachment 4

S. D. Wood, *Curriculum Vitae*

April 2017

3

Gilbert, Jess, **Spencer D. Wood**, and Gwen Sharp. 2002. "Who Owns the Land? Current Agricultural Land Ownership by Race/Ethnicity," *Rural America*, 17:4(Winter)55-62, U.S. Department of Agriculture: Washington, D.C.

**Wood, Spencer D.** and Jess Gilbert. 2000. "Returning African-American Farmers to the Land: Recent Trends and a Policy Rationale," *The Review of Black Political Economy* 27:4(Spring)43-64.

Wolf, Steven A. and **Spencer D. Wood**. 1997. "Precision Farming: Environmental Legitimation, Commodification of Information, and Industrial Coordination," *Rural Sociology* 62:2(Summer)180-206.

### **AWARDS:**

2008. "Man Called Matthew Award" from the Concerned Citizens of Tillery for outstanding service and commitment to community development and social change. Tillery, NC.

2004-05 Award for Curricular Innovation in Community-Based Learning, from the Center for Service Learning, Colorado College.

1999-2000 Lincoln Institute for Land Policy Dissertation Fellow, \$5,000.

### **FUNDED OR RECENTLY SUBMITTED GRANTS:**

- |               |   |
|---------------|---|
| November 2016 | \$50,000 Rural Communities, Grocery Stores, and Social Capital. Affiliate with David Procter and the Center for Engagement and Community Development. The Food Trust.   |
| March 2011    | \$5,000 Chapman Center for Rural Studies grant to develop "Lost Town" research component of existing course. Students will conduct basic field research on the social history of several abandoned towns in Washington County, KS.  |
| May 2010      | \$3,500 "Building Harlem by the Mississippi: The Black Cottonmakers' Jubilee, Race, Resistance, and the Roots of Black Nationalism in Memphis, Tennessee, 1936-1972." PI. Kansas State University, University Small Research Grants proposal.   |
| November 2009 | \$14,700 Rural Alliance for Service-Learning North Central Region Multi-State Rural Development Research Project. Co-PI. The North Central Region Center for Rural Development of the USDA. Planning Grant to Develop Community Based Learning in Rural Areas.  |
| November 2009 | \$5,000 Memories of Food and Gardening: Oral Histories of Community Members in Kansas City, KS. PI. Center for Engagement and Community Development, Kansas State University. This is a sister-project to the funded research below in Kansas City, KS.   |
| May 2009      | \$86,000 An Evaluation of Community Gardening, Nutritional Disparities, and Civil Society in Kansas City, KS. PI. The Health Care Foundation of Greater Kansas City. With Laszlo Kulcsar (KState Sociology) and Katherine Kelly of Cultivate Kansas City. Amount includes \$30,000 of support from Kansas State University Extension and Agricultural Experiment Station. |

### **SELECTED INVITED PAPERS, LECTURES, AND PRESENTATIONS:**

**Wood, Spencer D.** January 2016. "The Power of Land: Black Farming and Rural Communities in Historical Perspective." Invited presentation at the African Institute for Agrarian Studies, summer school. Harare, Zimbabwe.

**Wood, Spencer D.** October 2015. "Why Land Tenure Matters: Introductory Comments for the Screening of Deeds of Defiance." Invited lecture for the University of Wisconsin Land Tenure Center Film Series. Madison, WI.

**Wood, Spencer D.** September 2014. Panelist on the Lessons from Rural Development Panel, Community Wealth Building Conference, Denver, CO.

**Wood, Spencer D.** October 2013. "Black Farms and Farmers: What Has Happened and Where We Are Now," invited presentation at the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Land Loss Prevention Project, Durham, NC.

**Wood, Spencer D.** April 2010. "USDA Civil Rights Violations and the Decline of Black Farmers," invited lecture delivered to the Yale Black Law Students Association.

## Attachment 4

S. D. Wood, *Curriculum Vitae*

April 2017

4

**Wood, Spencer D.** April 2010. "A Violation of Civil Rights: The Largest Class-Action Civil Rights Settlement in U.S. History, and the On-Going African-American Freedom Movement." Keynote address to the AKD undergraduate Sociology organization at the University of Arkansas-Fayetteville.

**Wood, Spencer D.** November 2010. "The Decline of Black Farmers and the USDA Lawsuit." Keynote panel presentation delivered to the Black Farmers and Urban Gardeners Conference, Brooklyn, NY.

**Wood, Spencer D.** June 2008. "Land Ownership and the Civil Rights Movement in Mississippi," invited lecture at the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Rural Coalition Assembly, Homestead, FL.

**Wood, Spencer D.,** Savi Horne, and Jess Gilbert. 1999. "The Land-Based Struggle for Civil Rights: Race, Property, and Democracy in America's Rural South." Invited paper presented at *A Pearl Jubilee: 30 Years of African and African American Studies at Carolina*, University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, October 7-9, 1999. A previous version of this paper was presented at the 1999 Rural Sociological Society annual meeting, August 1999.

### STUDENTS:

#### *Chair - Graduate Thesis Committees*

Charles Hawley (MS, Spring 2009)  
Casey Hillgren Tiemann (MS, Spring 2011)  
Joseph T. Jakubek, Jr. (PhD)  
Sandra Huerta (PhD)  
Alagi Patel (MA)  
Ana Luiza de Campos Paula (PhD)  
Pat Rissler (PhD)  
Daniel Sitterle (MS, Fall 2013)  
Daniel Sitterle (PhD)

David Westfall (MS, Spring 2009)

#### *Member - PhD Thesis Committees*

Sarah Beach (Summer 2013)  
Ben Bolender (Spring 2010)  
Alida Boorn, History, (Spring 2014)  
Andrea Boyles (Spring 2012)  
Jeremy Briggs (Summer 2013)  
Saul Cohn (Fall 2013)  
Rebecca Culver-Turner, Marriage and Family Therapy (Spring 2011)  
Matt Dance  
Edward Green  
Nathan Hardy, Marriage and Family Therapy  
Paul Ibbetson (Fall 2011)  
Henry Jackson (Spring 2009)  
Travis Linnemann (Spring 2011)  
Lorenza Lockett, Family Studies (Spring 2015)  
Laura Logan (Summer 2013)  
Sharon Luu (Dietz?) Marriage and Family Therapy  
Danvas Mabeya (Spring 2010)  
Michael Miller  
Cole Ratcliffe, Marriage and Family Therapy (Fall 2013)  
Uma Sarmistha (2014)

#### *Member - MS Thesis Committees*

Celeste Cook (MS, Spring 2010), Textiles & Design  
Sarah Donley (MS, Fall 2009)  
Kristin Kelly (MS, Fall 2013)  
Sharon Luu (Marriage and Family Therapy, Fall 2013)  
Rebecca Manes (MS, Spring 2012), Ag. Econ.  
Michael Miller (MS, Spring 2012)  
Anirban Mukherjee (MS, Fall 2008)  
Elizabeth Musoke (MS, Spring 2016), Planning  
Patrick Rissler (MS, Fall 2013)  
Uma Sarmistha (MS, Spring 2009)  
Caroline Tanner (MS, Spring 2013), Horticulture

### SELECTED PROFESSIONAL SERVICE AND VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE:

2016-2019 Editor, *Rural Studies Series*, West Virginia University Press.  
2016-2019 Secretary, Rural Sociological Society  
2015-2017 Faculty Senate Leadership Council and Executive Committee, Kansas State University  
2015-2017 Chair, Faculty Senate Committee on University Planning, Kansas State University.  
2015 Program Organizer and Conference Planning Committee Member, *Power of Land, Healthy Food, and USDA Policies Forum*, Howard University.  
2014-2015 Member, Faculty Senate Committee on University Planning.