

LAKESIA D. JOHNSON
GRINNELL COLLEGE
Gender, Women's, & Sexuality Studies Program & Department of English
Assistant Vice-President & Chief Diversity Officer, Dean's Office
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EDUCATION

The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH

Ph.D. in Women's Studies, August 2008

Dissertation Title: *The Iconography of the Black Female Revolutionary and New Narratives of Justice*

Dissertation Director: Dr. Judith Mayne

Areas of Specialization and Research: Visual and Narrative Culture, Black Women's Studies, Sexuality Studies, Feminist Legal Theory and Critical Race Theory

The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH

J.D. /M.A. (Dual Degree Program)

Juris Doctorate, June 1995

Master of Arts in Women's Studies, June 1995

Smith College, Northampton, MA

A.B. in Government, May 1991

Minor in Afro-American Studies

Exchange Program: Visiting student at Howard University during fall semester of junior year.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Associate Professor of English and Gender, Women's and Sexuality Studies, Grinnell

College, Grinnell, IA (May 2014 – Present): Promoted and awarded tenure in May 2014. Served as Chair of the GWSS Program (Autumn 2013 – June 2017) and Associate Dean & Chief Diversity Officer (Summer 2015 – Summer 2016). Promoted to Assistant Vice President & Chief Diversity Officer Summer 2016.

Assistant Professor of English and Gender, Women's and Sexuality Studies, Grinnell

College, Grinnell, IA (Autumn 2008-May 2014): Responsible for teaching *Introduction to Gender & Women's Studies* and upper level courses in Gender & Women's Studies, including *Critical Race Feminisms, Feminism & Popular Culture* and a topical senior seminar on Chicana feminist thought.

Lecturer, The Ohio State University Department of Women's Studies, Columbus, OH

(Autumn 2007): Taught *History of Western Feminist Thought* for the Department of Women's Studies.

Visiting Assistant Professor of Women's Studies, Denison University, Granville, OH (Spring 2007 and Spring 2008): Taught *Issues in Feminism* for the Department of Women's Studies.

Graduate Teaching Associate, The Ohio State University Department of Women's Studies,

Columbus, OH (Autumn 2002- Spring 2007): Responsibilities included teaching one course per quarter for the Department of Women's Studies. Courses taught include *History of Western Feminist Thought* and *U.S. Women Writers: Texts and Contexts*. Responsibilities included syllabus construction, textbook selection, lecturing and grading.

Adjunct Assistant Professor of Women's Studies, Denison University, Granville, OH (1997-2002): Taught *Legal Scholarship Theorizing Race and Gender* once per year. Regular committee work in Women's Studies and Black Studies.

Lecturer, The Ohio State University Department of Women's Studies, Columbus, OH (Autumn 2001): Lecturer in Women's Studies. Responsible for teaching graduate course, *Gender Discrimination*.

Assistant Professor of Black Studies and Women's Studies, Denison University, Granville, OH (1996-1997): One-year joint appointment in Black Studies and Women's Studies. Responsible for teaching *Issues in Feminism*, *Introduction to Black Studies*, *Black Women in America* and *Race Discrimination & the Law*. Duties also included committee work and organization of selected campus events.

Graduate Teaching Associate, The Ohio State University Department of Women's Studies, Columbus, OH (1994-1995): Graduate teaching associate in Women's Studies. Responsible for teaching *Introduction to Women's Studies in the Humanities*. Responsibilities included syllabus construction, textbook selection, lecturing and grading. Lectured on sexual harassment in other Women's Studies courses.

ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE

Assistant Vice-President & Chief Diversity Officer, Grinnell College, Grinnell, IA (Summer 2016-Present): Expanded responsibilities include serving as Interim Director of Intercultural Affairs, which includes the supervision on three staff members. Continued responsibilities include overseeing college-wide diversity and inclusion initiatives, with particular focus on faculty hiring & retention, implicit bias training, inclusive teaching practices, campus climate assessment and curriculum development. Continuing role as Chair of the GWSS Program (Autumn 2013 – June 2017).

Associate Dean & Chief Diversity Officer, Grinnell College, Grinnell, IA (Summer 2015-Summer 2016): Responsibilities include overseeing college-wide diversity and inclusion initiatives, with particular focus on faculty hiring & retention, implicit bias training, inclusive teaching practices, campus climate assessment and curriculum development. Served as Chair of the GWSS Program (Autumn 2013 – June 2017).

Undergraduate Advisor, The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH (Summer 2003- Autumn 2006): Responsibilities included advising students seeking to declare a minor/major in Women's Studies. Served as a member of the departmental Undergraduate Studies Committee.

Director of Women's Programs and Affirmative Action, Denison University, Granville, OH (1997- 2002): Responsibilities included managing the Women's Resource Center and coordinating Campus Climate Advocates and Denison Rape Survivor Advocates. Responsible for working with campus community to design and implement programs and policies of concern to women. Duties also included the implementation of Denison's Affirmative Action Plan; monitoring faculty and administrative searches; investigation of employment discrimination complaints and working with the campus community on issues of affirmative action, campus climate, and diversity.

ACADEMIC HONORS

National Honors

Woodrow Wilson Career Enhancement Fellowship, Received Honorable Mention Recognition, 2011
Woodrow Wilson Dissertation Fellowship in Women's Studies, 2006
Phi Kappa Phi National Honors Society, 2004
Alpha Kappa Mu National Honors Society, 1995

The Ohio State University

Dean's Fellowship, 1993
The Ohio State University Scholarship for the Study of Law, 1991
Semi-finalist in Moot Court Best Brief Contest, 1991

PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

Books

Iconic: Decoding Images of the Revolutionary Black Woman, Baylor University Press, 2012.

Articles and Encyclopedia Entries

Othermothers, Amazons, and Strategies of Leadership in the Public and Private Spheres in *Black Womanist Leadership: Tracing the Motherline*, ed. by Toni C. King and S. Aleese Ferguson, SUNY Press, 2011.

Calvert v. Johnson in *Historical and Multicultural Encyclopedia of Women's Reproductive Rights in the United States* ed. by Judith A. Baer, Greenwood Publishing Group, 2002.

Co-authored with T. King et al, *Andrea's Third Shift: The Invisible Work of African American Women in Higher Education* in *This Bridge We Call Home: Radical Visions for Transformation* ed. by Gloria Anzaldua & AnaLouise Keating, Routledge, Inc., 2002.

Reviews and Op Eds

Reviewed *Seeing Through Race: A Reinterpretation of Civil Rights Photography* by Martin A. Berger. *American Studies*, 52.3 (Summer 2013), 96-7.

The Angry Black Woman: Why are D.L. Hughley and Other Men Perpetuating the Stereotype. November 2012, <http://www.loop21.com/life/angry-black-woman>.

Reviewed *The Color of Privilege: Three Blasphemies on Race and Feminism* by Aida Hurtado and *The Politics of Affirmative Action: 'Women', Equality & Category Politics* by Carol Lee Bachi. *National Women's Studies Association Journal*, 10.3 (Fall 1998), 221.

Reviewed *Psychological Perspectives on Lesbian and Gay Issues: Vol. 3. Ethnic and Cultural Diversity Among Lesbians and Gay Men* ed. by Beverly Greene. *The Lesbian Review of Books*, 4.4 (Summer 1998), 29.

Reviewed with E. Buker *Posthuman Bodies* ed. by Judith Halberstam and Ira Livingston. *The Lesbian Review of Books*, 3.3 (Spring 1997), 9.

Conference Presentations

Middle-Aged Musings: Black Female Neo-Soul Artists in Mid-Life, Popular Culture Association Annual Conference, Indianapolis, Indiana, March 30, 2018: Presented on panel titled *Music, Musical Cultures, and Gendered Expression*.

Mentoring Matters: How Institutions Can Better Support Fellows, Consortium for Faculty Diversity Annual Fellows Conference at Grinnell College, Grinnell, Iowa, September 15-16, 2017: Organized conference and co-presented with Shanna Benjamin.

Representing for Justice: Reflections on Patricia J. Williams' The Alchemy of Race and Rights, Critical Race Theory and Empirical Methods Symposium, Iowa City, Iowa, April 26, 2013: Presented on panel titled *Race and Identity*.

Wielding Mama's Gun: Black Feminism, Baduizm, and Revolutionary Soul, National Women's Studies Association Conference, Oakland, California, November 10, 2012: Presented on panel titled *Baduizm, Black Girlhood and Women of Color Feminism: Revolutionary Soul, Sexuality and Belonging*.

Red, White and Blues: Black Women, Politics, and Neo-Soul, Midwest Popular Culture Association Area Conference, Columbus, Ohio, October 13, 2012: Chaired and presented on a panel on Black women, music and popular culture.

The Nueva Latina Consciousness: Three Critical, Performative Perspectives on Latina Identity National Women's Studies Association Conference, Denver, Colorado, November 11-13, 2010: Moderated panel featuring Professor Michelle Nasser and Grinnell students.

Black Queer Embodiment and Desire in the Music Videos of Me 'shell Ndegéocello, Sarah-Lawrence College, March 6, 2010: Paper presented at the 12th Annual Women's History Month Conference: The Message is in the Music: Hip Hop Feminism, Riot Grrrl, Latina Music, and More.

Small Campus, Small Program, Big Responsibilities: The Challenges of Keeping Women's Studies Programs Afloat at Liberal Arts Schools National Women's Studies Association Conference, November 15, 2009: Panelist on panel discussing curricular and administrative issues.

Critical Race Theory, Gender, and Sexual Orientation CRT: Honoring Our Past, Charting Our Future, University of Iowa College of Law, April 4, 2009: Discussant in roundtable with legal scholars in the field.

The Construction of the Black Female Legal Subject in the Novels of Derrick Bell National Women's Studies Association Conference, June 18, 2004: Paper presented in session titled *Representations of Black Women in Visual and Narrative Culture: Stereotypes, Erasure and Agency*.

Invited Presentations, Selected Media Appearances, and Honors

Ohio Wesleyan University, January 17, 2018: Presented *Moving Beyond Diversity Recruitment to Meaningful Inclusion: Strategies for Welcoming and Retaining Faculty of Color*.

Talk of Iowa, Iowa Public Radio, August 24, 2017: Featured guest on panel, *Resisting Hate*.
<http://iowapublicradio.org/post/resisting-hate#stream/0>.

ACM Equity Literacy and Diversity Workshop, June 28, 2017: Served as breakout facilitator for small group conversation about best practices in diversity hiring and mentoring.

The University of Iowa, ACM-CIC Diversifying the Professoriate: Pathways, Processes, and Practical Strategies for a Changing Academy, May 24-25, 2016: Featured panelist on *Being Smart and Proactive: Some Hiring Best Practices* and co-facilitator of conference debrief.

The Ohio State University, Council of Graduate Students, April 14, 2016: Featured panelist on panel, *Diversity in the Academic Workplace*.

The Auburn Avenue Research Library on African American Culture & History, March 14, 2013: Invited to participate with other scholars via Skype on women's history panel, *Let's Talk About It: Black Women and Stereotypes*.

The Ohio State University, Department of Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies, February 28, 2013: Invited to read and discuss *Iconic*.

Iconic makes Kam Williams' 10 Best Black Books of 2012, December 12, 2012:
<http://www.kamwilliams.com/2012/12/the-top-ten-black-books-of-2012-feature.html>.

HuffPost Live, December 12, 2012: Participated in conversation hosted by Ahmed Shihab-Eldin about Serena Williams and representations of Black women.
<http://live.huffingtonpost.com/#r/segment/spotlight-on-black/50c6985bfe3444210a0000fd>.

African American Writers Forum, Des Moines WOW (Wonder of Words) Festival, October 24, 2012: Read from *Iconic*, along with other African American writers, including Grinnell faculty, students, and internationally known poet, Jessica Care Moore.

The Bev Smith Show, Syndicated Radio, October 11, 2012: Pre-taped interview with Bev Smith about *Iconic*.

The John Hope Franklin Center of International and Interdisciplinary Studies at Duke University, Left of Black, Season 3, Episode 4, October 8, 2012: Interview about *Iconic* on weekly webcast hosted by Duke University Professor Mark Anthony Neal.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WMwVMypeiJQ>.

The Auburn Avenue Research Library on African American Culture & History, September 20, 2012: Skype interview and discussion of *Iconic*.

The Daily Drum, September 11, 2012: Radio interview with Harold Fischer about *Iconic*.

The Perri Small Show, Talk of Chicago, August 22, 2012: Radio interview with Perri Small about *Iconic*.

Talk of Iowa, Iowa Public Radio, August 8, 2012: Radio interview with Charity Nebbe about *Iconic*. <http://news.iowapublicradio.org/post/iconic-black-women>.

The Associated Colleges of the Midwest Committee on Minority Concerns Meeting, September 25, 2010: Presented keynote address on the recruitment and retention of faculty of color.

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AND SERVICE

Consortium for Faculty Diversity (CFD) Steering Committee (2016-2018)

Organized and Hosted CFD Annual Conference, September 2017

National Association of Diversity Officers in Higher Education, Member

National Women's Studies Association, Member

Popular Culture Association, Member

COMMITTEES AND CAMPUS ACTIVITIES

Grinnell College (2008-Present)

Ad Hoc Campus Climate Survey Committee

Campus Coordinator ACM-CIC Graduate School Exploration Fellowship (2015-2016)

Center for the Humanities Advisory Board

Chair Faculty and Staff of Color Caucus

Chair of Gender, Women's, and Sexuality Studies Committee (Autumn 2013-Present)

Co-Convener of the Council on Diversity & Inclusion (Autumn 2015-Present)

Committee on Academic Standing (Autumn 2015-Summer 2016)

Consortium for Faculty Diversity (Autumn 2015-Present)

Grinnell Equity Advocates (Trained and Supervised Autumn 2015-Present)

Gender Equity Taskforce (Autumn 2016-Present)

Instructional Support Committee

Mellon/Mays Liaison (Autumn 2015-Present)

Mellon/Mays Mentor

Mellon/Mays Undergraduate Fellowship Selection Committee

The Ohio State University (2003-2006)

College of Arts & Sciences Diversity Enhancement Council

Women's Studies Undergraduate Committee

Women's Student Services Search Committee

Denison University (1996-2002)

Advisor to Black Student Union

Advisor to Women's Emphasis

Black Faculty and Staff Caucus

Black Studies Committee

Campus Environment Team

Great Lakes College Association Women's Studies Committee

Judicial Appeals Board

Personnel Committee

Women's Studies Committee

REFERENCES AVAILABLE ON REQUEST