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Dept. of Philosophy and Religious Studies
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Primary field: North American religious history. Additional fields: Islam, African American religiosity; and religion, gender, and family.

EDUCATION

Ph. D. Northwestern University, Religious and Theological Studies, 2001
M. Div. Fuller Evangelical Theological Seminary, 1994
M. A. Fuller Evangelical Theological Seminary, Theology, 1992
B. A. Pepperdine University, Journalism, 1975

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Northern Illinois University

Faculty Associate, Center for Southeast Asian Studies, 2005 to present

Beloit College

Associate Professor (tenured) of Philosophy & Religious Studies, 2005-present
Assistant Professor of Philosophy & Religious Studies, 1999-2005

University of Alaska, Fairbanks

Visiting Professor, Psychology, Summer 2003

DePaul University

Adjunct Instructor in Religious Studies, 1998-9

Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary

Adjunct Instructor, Spring-Summer, 1998

LANGUAGES

Greek, Hebrew; studying Arabic

FELLOWSHIPS, AWARDS and GRANTS

Womanist Scholar, Interdenominational Theological Center, 2005-2006
 Global Partners Project, Ankara, Turkey, 2005
 ACM FaCE Project Grant, 2005
 Faculty Grant Award, Beloit College, 2005
 Who's Who Among American Teachers, 2004
 Course release from Beloit College's Vice President of Academic Affairs to
 work on the book, *Close Encounters of Intimate Sisterhood: Polygyny in
 the World of African American Muslims*, Fall 2004-Spring 2005
CrossCurrents Research Colloquium, 2003
 Wabash Center Workshop on Teaching and Learning for African American
 Faculty, 2002-2003
 Global Partners Project, Ankara, Turkey, 2002 (declined: Wabash conflict)
 Keefer Grant for Junior Scholars, Beloit College, 1999
 Robert W. Elliott Scholarship, Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary,
 1997
 Woman of Color Fellowship, The United Methodist Church, 1996-1997
 Doctoral Fellowship, Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary, 1995-1998
 Parish Pulpit Fellowship, Fuller-Evangelical Theological Seminary, 1994
 Provost Scholarship, Fuller-Evangelical Theological Seminary, 1993
 African American Ministries Grant, Fuller-Evangelical Theological
 Seminary, 1990-1992

PUBLICATIONS

Books

*Close Encounters of Intimate Sisterhood: Polygyny in the World of African
 American Muslims* (under contract, University Press of
 Florida, projected completion date 2006)

In proposal stage

*Hijab: A Matter of Identity or Law? Muslim Women in the Academy Share
 the Rationale for Their Personal Perspectives*

Articles and Book Chapters

"Architecture" and "Scripture" in *Encyclopedia of Religion, Communication
 and Media*, ed. Daniel Stout Berkshire/Routledge (forthcoming)

"Womanism Encounters Islam: A Muslim Scholar Considers the
 Efficacy of a Method Rooted in the Academy and the Church"

in *Delving Deeper Shades of Purple: Charting Twenty Years of Womanist Approaches in Religion and Society*, ed. Stacey Floyd Thomas. (Anthology under consideration with publisher)

"Clara Evans Muhammad" in *Encyclopedia of Women and Religion in North America*, ed. Rosemary Skinner Keller and Rosemary Radford Ruether. Indiana University Press (forthcoming 2005)

2004 "'The Battle Has Been Joined': Gay and Polygynous Marriages Are Out of the Closet and in Search of Legitimacy." *CrossCurrents* Summer.

2003 "Radical Religious Groups – African American" in *Encyclopedia of Religious Freedom*, ed. C. Cookson. Berkshire/Routledge.

"Clara Evans Muhammad: Pioneering Social Activism in the Original Nation of Islam," *Union Seminary Quarterly Review* 57:3-4

"A Du'a In Support of Survivors of Sexual Violence," in *I Will Survive: The African American Guide to Healing From Sexual Assault and Abuse*, ed. Lori Robinson. Avalon.

2001 "Forgotten Fruit of the City: Chicago and the Moorish Science Temple of America." *Cross Currents*. Spring.

"African American Muslims: Making Islam News in North America." *Muslim Today*. April.

1999 "Roundtable Response to Emily R. Neill's 'Horizons in Feminist Theology or Reinventing the Wheel?'" *Journal of Feminist Studies in Religion* 15:1. Spring.

1997 "A Womanist Ethic of Justice: One Answer to Societal Rage." Ethical Issues in Child and Family Services, National Council for Health and Human Service Ministries, United Church of Christ, *Forum* 1997.

Reviews

(In progress)

Dannelle D. Stevens and Antonia J. Levi, *Introduction to Rubrics: An Assessment Tool to Save Grading Time, Convey Effective Feedback and*

Promote Student Learning (Stylus Publishing, 2004) for *Teaching Theology and Religion* (forthcoming)

Graham Ward, *True Religion* (Blackwell Publishing, 2003) for *Teaching Theology and Religion* (forthcoming)

Clifford Williams, *The Life of the Mind: A Christian Perspective* (Baker House, 2002) for *Teaching Theology and Religion* 6:4 (October 2003)

CONFERENCE PAPERS

2005 "Keeping the Family Secure and at Peace: Polygyny in the World of Africa American Muslims," International Association for the History of Religions, March.

2004 "Living in Fear or Freedom: Is Polygyny the Ultimate Compromise for African American Women?" Western Regional Meeting of the American Academy of Religion, Whittier College, March.

2001 "A 'Back to Climb': Clara Muhammad and Female Social Activism Within the Nation of Islam," Upper Midwest Regional Meeting of the American Academy of Religion, April.

2000 "Recovering the Invisible Womanists: Mothers of the Moorish Science Temple of America as Models of African American Social Activism," Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion, November.

"Returning Home: An African American's Transition to Islam From Christianity," International Association for the History of Religions. Durban, South Africa, August.

"American Muslims in the Muslim World: African Americans, Islam and Broader Explorations of the Faith," International Association for the History of Religions, Durban, South Africa, August.

1999 "Sitting at the Feet of the Long Distance Runners: Black Women, Black Church, Black Islam, and Embodied Black Agency," Annual Meeting of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion, November.

Response to "The Civil Rights Movement, Religion, and Contemporary Civic Life by Rosetta E. Ross," Woman of Color Consultation, October.

1996 "Women Teaching for Social Change," Annual Meeting of the Women's Caucus: Religious Studies Professional Development Workshop, American Academy of Religion, November.

INVITED PANELS/PRESENTATIONS

2005 "Polygyny & the Utility of 'Engaged Surrender'," University of Chicago Race and Religion Workshop, March.

2004 "Tools for Survival: Islamic Beliefs as Weapons of War for African American Muslim Women," presented to the Symposium on the Abrahamic Faiths, East-West University, Chicago, IL, October. (A longer version of this presentation will appear in the *Proceedings of the Symposium*, published by East-West University.)

"Many Faces, One God," presentation on Islam to First United Methodist Church Beloit, October.

"Facts About Muslim Women and Clara Evans Muhammad," Seminar on Muslim Women: Past and Present, Vital Link Private School, Raleigh, NC, August.

"Encountering the Interfaith 'Other': Womanist Praxis in the Dialogue of Life" with Marsha Snulligan-Haney, Metro Urban Weekend, Pittsburgh Theological Seminary, April.

"Faith Amidst Questionable Justice: What To Do When Diversity Isn't Enough and Pluralism is hard to Fathom," Racial Ethnic Multicultural Network of the Association of Clinical Pastoral Education, Chicago, January.

2003 "Religious Literature and the Holy Qur'an," Rare Books Presentation, Beloit College, October.

"Close Encounters with Like and Difference: Religious Tolerance in an Age of Fear," 2003 Interdenominational Theological Center Annual Interfaith Dialogue, Clark-Atlanta University, February.

2002 "Islam and Muslim Life," Blackhawk State Technical College, December.

"An African American's Transition to Islam" Women's History Month, Seattle University, January.

"Who Is Martin Luther King, Jr.," Todd Elementary School, January.

- 2001** "Islam: What It Is/Isn't," First Presbyterian Church Clinton, November.
- "Comparative Religions," St. John Vianney Church, October.
- "Faith in a Troubled World," First Presbyterian Church Beloit, October.
- 2000** "Between a Rock and a Power Place: Communication and Identity Formation of African American Muslim Women," Governors State University, October.
- 1998** Commencement Speaker, Our Lady of Tepeyac High School, June.
- 1997** "Transitions in the Valley," Derwent Week, Cliff College, Sheffield, UK, July/August.
- 1996** "The Sermon As A Preaching Event: Resurrecting Dead Peoples," 1996 Art of Preaching Conference, Cliff College, Sheffield, UK, January.
- 1995** "Christianity vs. Islam," Center for Black and White Christian Partnership, Birmingham, UK, December.
- "Oppression & Liberation: The Womanist Experience," West Midlands Ministerial Training Course, Queens College, Birmingham, UK, November.
- 1995** "From Bondage to Bonding: Male & Female Relationships -- Receptive, Real, Released," Shiloh Pentecostal Fellowship, Birmingham, UK, October.
- "Introduction to Womanist Theology," University of Leeds, UK, October.
- "Telling the Truth," Teaching Issues of Race Across the Curriculum Conference, Queens College, Birmingham, UK, October.
- "Womanist Theology," Gender and Interfaith Week, Queens College, Birmingham, UK, May.
- "The Study of Womanist Theology," University of Birmingham, UK, May.
- "Can White Women Be Womanists?" Sheffield University Theological Unit, UK, February.

REVIEW WORK FOR ACADEMIC PUBLISHERS/JOURNALS

- 2004** Religion and Media Interest Group paper competition, Association

for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication, 2004

Essay Reviewer for *FEMSPEC*

2003 Proposal Reviewer for *Alta Mira Press*

New edition reviewer for *World Religions Today*, 2nd Edition, eds. John L. Esposito, Darrell J. Fasching & Todd Lewis. Oxford University Press.

SEMINAR/WORKSHOP PARTICIPATION

2003 "Institutional Collaboration on the Teaching of Middle Eastern Studies," National Institute for Technology and Liberal Education.

"Digital Video for Teaching and Learning," Midwest Instructional Technology Center.

2001 "Educating All of One Nation: Affirming Diversity in the 21st Century," American Council on Education.

"Interdisciplinary Studies Summer Workshop," Beloit College.

2000 "Interdisciplinary Studies Summer Workshop," Beloit College.

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY/SEMINARY ACTIVITY

Teaching

Beloit College

Human Rights in the African Diaspora: Black Liberation & the Legacy of
 Martin Luther King, Jr. and Malcolm X Shabazz
 Interdisciplinary Approaches to the Study of Religion
 Islam in North America
 Judaism
 Living and Dying in Global Traditions
 Martin Luther King, Jr: Quest for Social Justice
 Religions in Beloit
 Religious Diversity and Marital Practice
 Sects & Cults
 The Black Church in the U.S.
 The New Testament

The Qur'an
 Theologizing Harry Potter
 Understanding Religious Traditions in Multicultural America
 Warrior Spirits & Warrior Gods: The Masculinization of Religious Violence
 Women and Sacred Literature
 Writing Women's Lives: Religious Biography and Autobiography

University of Alaska-Fairbanks

Living and Dying in Global Traditions

DePaul University

The American Religious Experience

Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary

History of Christianity, III
 Contemporary Theologies

Beloit College Service

Mentor, McNair Scholars Program (2004)
 Participant, discussions with Athletic Director candidates (2004)
 Member, Women's & Gender Studies Program Search Committee (2004)
 Member, Art History Department Search Committee (2004)
 "Black Muslims," BSU African American Heritage Month Celebration
 (2004)
 Interviewed, "The Passion of the Christ," *Beloit Daily News* (2004)
 Faculty Advisor, Senegal Study Abroad Program (2003-present)
 Participant, "What Is Ramadan?" (2003)
 Panelist, "Access to Higher Education: Affirming the Action in the Post-
 Brown Era," 2003 ACM Minority Concerns Conference
 Invocation, 2003 Beloit College Commencement
 Elected Keynote Speaker, 2003 Beloit College Baccalaureate
 "The Black Civil rights Movement and Islam in North America," Black
 History Month Celebration of the International Club (2003)
 Facilitator, "Islam," First United Methodist Church Beloit Confirmation
 Class (2003)
 Advisor, Sophomore Year Program, (2003)
 Member, Spirituality Project Committee, Beloit College (2002-2004)
 Member, Interdisciplinary Studies Committee (2002)

Moderator, Beloit Stories' "Spiritual Journeys in the Beloit Community: Faith in Action" (2002)

Co-presenter with Pamela Cook, "Shall We Dance?: Team Teaching and Interdisplinary," Faculty Forum (2002)

Member, Beloit Stories Committee (2001-2002)

Instructor, Upward Bound Program (2002)

First-Year Initiative (FYI) Instructor (2002)

Panelist, "Segregation," Multicultural Club (2002)

"My Transition to Islam," Womyn's Center's Womyn's Week (2002)

Member, Women's & Gender Studies Leadership Committee (2002)

Facilitator, Muslimah Information and Support Group (2001-2002)

Member, Deale/King Commemoration Committee (2001-2002)

Panelist, "U.S. Government Response to September 11" (2001)

Member, Lily Grant Committee (2001)

Member, Faculty & Staff Holiday Reception Committee (2001)

Invocation Speaker, Help Yourself Program 2001 Commencement

Member, History Department Search Committee 2002)

Member, Board of Directors, Beloit Fine Arts Incubator (2002)

Interviewed, "Aftermath of September 11," WGEZ Radio Morning Show (2001)

Interviewed, "Aftermath of September 11," *Beloit Daily News* (2001)

Member, Diversity Committee, (2000-present)

Campus advisor, Ford Foundation Fellowship for Minorities (2000-2002)

Participant, "Denver Reception for Front-Range Alumni & Parents" (2001)

Participant, Sexual Assault Forum (2001)

Delivered introduction remarks for keynote speaker, Beloit NAACP Annual Dinner (2000)

Guest Speaker, BSU GospelFest (2000)

Panelist, "Excellence in Teaching Symposium," Department of Education (2000)

Member, Affirmative Action Committee (1999)

Beloit College Departmental Service

Faculty Sponsor, Field & Career Services Internship Program (Summer 2004)

Facilitator, "Non-Violent Social Activism." POLS 295 "Top: Peace Studies" (2004)

Facilitator, "Religious Imagery and 'Angels in America,'" HCST 340 "ProSem: Literature and Media (2004)

Facilitator, "Islam & Terrorism," POLS 295 Terrorism: Non-Traditional Security Issues (2004)

Facilitator, "Diversifying the Curriculum," ED 284 Education of Diverse Learners (2004)

Facilitator, "Ethics and Harry Potter," Alpha Sigma Tau student chapter, Beloit College (2004)

Member, Philosophy Program Search Committee, Beloit College (2003)

Faculty Sponsor, Field & Career Services Internship Program (Summer 2002)

Facilitator, "Are You Muslim Too? Diversity in Numbers and Ideology in Islam," Philosophy & Religious Studies Colloquium (2002)

Facilitator, "Becoming Muslim," RLST 101 World Religions (2002)

Co-presenter, "How To Make a Presentation," departmental Colloquium (2002)

Facilitator, "What is Islam," International Club (2001)

Senior Member, Religious Studies Program, (2001-present)

Facilitator, "African American Islam," RLST 101 World Religions (2000)

Member, Religious Studies Search Committee (2000)

Interviewer, Charles Winter Wood Scholarship Program (2000)

Facilitator, "Malcolm X," IDST 213 Campus Protests (2000)

Facilitator, "Islam and Women," WMST 261 International Perspectives on Women (2000)

Interviewer, Presidential Scholars Weekend (1999, 2000)

SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION

Appointed, Beloit College Representative, ACM Committee on the Status of Women (2003-present)

Appointed, Convener, Afro-American Religion and Religion of North America sections, Upper Midwestern Region, AAR (2003 to present)

Elected, Co-Chair, African American Religious History Group, AAR (2002-present)

Appointed, Advisory Board Member, AAR Employment Information Service, (2001-2003)

Elected, Steering Committee Member, Afro-American Religious History Group, AAR (2001-2002)

Elected, Member, Board of Directors, American Academy of Religion (1997-1999)

Elected, Student Director, American Academy of Religion (1997-1999)

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Academy of Religion
 American Studies Association
 Organization of American Historians
 Religious Research Association
 Society for the Study of Black Religion