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EDUCATION

PhD, English, University of Chicago, 2000

MA, English, University of Chicago, 1995

BA, English, San Jose State University, 1992 (Graduated with Distinction and Departmental Honors)

EMPLOYMENT

Associate Professor, Department of English and Africana Studies, Brown University, 2007-

Assistant Professor, Department of English, Brown University, 2004-07

Assistant Professor, Department of English, The Ohio State University, 2000-04

FELLOWSHIPS AND HONORS

2009 Joe Weixlmann Award from the journal *African American Review* (for best essay on 20th- and 21st- century literature)

Bronson Fellowship, Brown University, 2006-07

Predocctoral Fellowship, The Carter G. Woodson Institute for Afro-American and African Studies, University of Virginia, 1998-2000

Mellon Dissertation Fellowship, University of Chicago, 1998-1999 (Declined)

Trustee Fellowship, University of Chicago, 1992-1993, 1994-1998

PUBLICATIONS

Books:

Our Living Manhood: Literature, Black Power, and Masculine Ideology. Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 2007.

Articles:

“Black Crisis Shuffle: Fiction, Race, and Simulation,” *African American Review* 42.2: (2008): 1-19 (Winner of the 2009 Joe Weixlmann Award for best essay on 20th- and 21st- century literature).

“How the Conjure-Man Gets Busy: Cultural Nationalism, Masculinity, and Performativity.” *The Yale Journal of Criticism* 18.2 (2005): 299-321.

“Diaspora by Bus: Reginald McKnight, Postmodernism, and Transatlantic Subjectivity.” *Contemporary Literature* 46.1 (2005): 46-77.

“The Long Strut: *Song of Solomon* and the Emancipatory Limits of Black Patriarchy.” *Callaloo* 22.1 (1999): 121-33.

Reviews:

"African-American Literary Studies and the Legacies of Black Nationalism." Review of *Betrayal: How Black Intellectuals Have Abandoned the Ideals of the Civil Rights Era and Once You Go Black: Choice, Desire, and the Black American Intellectual* by Robert Reid-Pharr. *American Literary History* 21.4 (2009): 923-37.

Review of *The Death-Bound-Subject: Richard Wright's Archaeology of Death* by Abdul R. JanMohamed. *Novel: A Forum on Fiction* 39.2 (2006): 299-302.

Review of *Psychoanalysis and Black Novels: Desire and the Protocols of Race* by Claudia Tate. *Modernism/Modernity* 6.3 (1999): 161-63.

Review of *Finding Makeba* by Alexis Pate. *The Midwesterner*. Feb. 1997: 63.

WORK IN PROGRESS

Blackness Undone: African American Culture and the End of Identity (Book Manuscript)

INVITED LECTURES

“The Clumsy Trap of Manhood: Revolutionary Nationalism and John Edgar Wideman’s Philadelphia.” New Orleans: Tulane University. Apr. 2007.

“Black Crisis Shuffle: Fiction, Race, and Simulation.” The Future of African American Studies Colloquium. Ithaca: Cornell University. Mar. 2007.

“Black Crisis Shuffle: Fiction, Race and Simulation.” Young Americanist Lecture Series. Madison: University of Wisconsin. Oct. 2006.

“Revolutionary Bodies: Black Nationalism, John Edgar Wideman, and Masculine Ideology,” The Seventh Annual John Roche Memorial Lecture. Providence: Rhode Island College. Apr. 2005.

“The ‘Clumsy Trap’ of Manhood: Revolutionary Nationalism, John Edgar Wideman, and the Problem of Masculine Ideology.” Lecture Series 2003-04: New Work in African American Studies. Providence: Brown University. Oct. 2003.

PAPERS PRESENTED

"Contemporary Black Writing and the Critical Lag." Celebrating African American Literature: The Novel Since 1988. University Park: Penn State U. Oct. 2009.

"Phantom Union: Contemporary African American Fiction and Class Division." Post-45 Conference. New Haven: Yale University. Nov. 2008.

"Black Death: Reconsidering the Negativity of Race." Post-45 Conference. Cambridge: Harvard University. Oct. 2007.

"The Time of Breach: Class Division and the Contemporary African American Novel." Theories of the Novel Now Conference. Providence. Nov. 2007.

"From Dissertation to Book." Washington, D.C.: Modern Language Association Conference. Dec. 2005.

"African American Fiction and the End of Belonging." Milwaukee: Midwest Modern Language Association. Nov. 2005.

"Diaspora by Bus: Reginald McKnight, Postmodernism, and the Suspension of Transatlantic Subjectivity." Ann Arbor: American Comparative Literature Association, Apr. 2004.

"Sympathy for the Rodent: Segregation, Interior Lives, and Protest Literature." Race and Place Conference Series. Tuscaloosa: University of Alabama. Apr. 2004.

"Diaspora by Bus: Reginald McKnight and American Constructions of the African Homeland" Minneapolis: Midwest Modern Language Association. Nov. 2002.

"All of the Prisons: The Stockyards of the Self": Clarence Major, and the Masculine Ideology of Black Power." Minneapolis: Midwest Modern Language Association. Nov. 2002.

"Let the Conjure-Man Get Busy": Masculine Performatives, Satire, and Cultural Nationalism in *The Cotillion*." Washington, D.C.: Modern Language Association Conference. Dec. 2000.

"True Fictions: A Panel Discussion on the Fiction of John Edgar Wideman." John Edgar Wideman: A Callaloo Celebration. Charlottesville: University of Virginia. Mar. 2000.

"Black Ark: *Sent for You Yesterday* and the Limits of Vernacular Culture." Baltimore: American Language Association Conference. May 1999.

"The 'Clumsy Trap' of Manhood: *The Lynchers*, the Black Panthers, and the Black Male Subject." Modern Language Association Conference. San Francisco: Dec. 1998.

COURSES TAUGHT

Harlem Renaissance: The Politics of Culture
Contemporary African American Literature and the End(s) of Identity (Graduate and Undergraduate Seminar)
Reading the Black Masses in Literature and Critical Practice (Graduate Seminar)
African American Literature and the Legacy of Slavery
The Literature and Culture of Black Power Reconsidered
American Fiction and Mass Culture
Plain Folk: Literature and the Problem of Poverty
Black Internationalism and African American Literature
Race and Nation in American Literature

ACADEMIC SERVICE

University:

2009-2010 Concentration Advisor, Department of English
Fall 2009 Judge for the Preston Gurney Prize in Literary Criticism of Fiction, Department of English
2008-2009 Chair, Search Committee, African American Literature and Culture
2007-2008 Graduate Admissions Committee, Department of English
2007-2008 First-Year Academic Advisor
2006-2009 Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship, Board Member
2005-2006 Graduate Admissions Committee, Department of English
2005-2006 Independent Concentrations Committee, a sub-committee of the College Curriculum Council
Spring 2005 Judge for the Preston Gurney Prize in Literary Criticism of Fiction, Department of English
Spring 2004 Judge for the Preston Gurney Prize in Literary Criticism of Fiction, Department of English
2004-2006 ALANA (African, Latino, Asian, and Native American) Mentoring Program

Profession:

2009 Manuscript Reviewer, Routledge
2008-2009 Peer Reviewer, *Novel*
2007-2008 Peer Reviewer, MELUS Society for the Study of Multi-Ethnic Literatures in the United States)
2005-2006 Peer Reviewer, *Callaloo: A Journal of African American and African Arts and Letters*
2003-2004 Peer Reviewer, MELUS (Society for the Study of Multi-Ethnic Literatures in the United States)