
EDUCATION

Ph.D. (History) Yale University -May 1998

M.A. (History) Yale University - 1989

B.A. (History, with honors/International Relations) Mount Holyoke College - 1987

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY, Washington DC

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR, Fall 2005 to present.

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR, Fall 2001 to 2005.

Teach courses in African history and Africana studies.

Undergraduate courses: "African History to 1880", "Modern African History", "Women in Africa", "African Humanities", "Africa and Africans in the Atlantic World" "African Diaspora", "West Africa to Independence"

Graduate courses "Western representations of Africa"

UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS - DALLAS, Richardson, Texas

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR, Spring 1998 - 2001

Taught undergraduate and graduate level courses in African, African-American and African Diaspora history. Courses taught: "Early African American History (Slavery to Reconstruction)"; "African-Americans and Africa: Links in History"; "African Diaspora"; "African-Americans in the Twentieth-Century"(Reconstruction to Civil Rights Movement); "African History to 1880"; "Modern African History", "Ideas of Africa in Western thought"; "Slavery and Race Relations, "Postcolonialism and African History and Literature".

PUBLICATIONS AND SCHOLARLY ACTIVITY

Publications

Entries: "Marcus Mosiah Garvey" and "Immigration and Immigrant Groups: African American" in New Encyclopedia of Africa, John Middleton and Joseph Miller (eds), Scribner 2007

"We have the cause of Africa at Heart": West Indians and African-Americans in 19th century Freetown" in Mac Dixon-Fyle and Gibril Cole, New Perspectives on the Sierra Leone Krio, Peter Lang Publishing. 2006

Book review of James Fairhead, Tim Geysbeek, Svend Holsoe and Melissa Leach African-American Exploration in West Africa: Four Nineteenth Century Diaries in African Studies Review, Vol. 48, number 1, April 2005

Contributor: Howard Dodson and Sylviane Diouf In motion: the African-American migration experience (Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture) National Geographic Society, 2005, Washington, D.C

"'Back to Africa' The Migration of New World Blacks to Sierra Leone and Liberia", in Organization of American Historians Magazine of History, Volume 18, Number 3 (April 2004), pp. 23-25 (3 pages)

Book review of David Eltis (ed) Coerced and Free Migration: Global Perspectives, Stanford University Press, 2002 in American Historical Review, February 2004

Entry: "Non-African Diasporas" in Encyclopedia of Twentieth-century African history / editor, Paul Tiyambe Zeleza; deputy editor, Dickson Eyoh. London; New York: Routledge, 2003 pp. 395-3989 (3 pages)

"The Search for Anna Erskine: African-American Women in nineteenth century Liberia in, Stepping Forward: Black Women in Africa and the Americas, Catherine Higgs, Barbara Moss, Earline Rae Ferguson, Ohio University Press, 2002 pp. 31-43 (13 pages)

Blyden

West Indians in West Africa, 1808-1880: A Diaspora in reverse, University of Rochester Press, 2000

"Edward Jones: An African American in Sierra Leone" in edited work *Moving On: Black Loyalists in the Afro-Atlantic World*, John W. Pulis (ed.) (Garland Publishing, Inc. 1999), pp.159-182 (24 pages)

Spring 2000: Updated Sierra Leone entry for *Encyclopedia Britannica*

Lectures, Conferences and Presentations

Invited

November 2007 - "Black Atlantic Identities and Reverse Migrations," *Year of the Atlantic World 2007-2008 Lecture Series*, Kennesaw State University |

April 2007: Invited commentator for panel on "The Transatlantic Slave Trade: Insurance Litigation involving the Zong and other Slave Ships, 1780-1807." *DC Area Legal History Roundtable*.

February 2007: Invited Speaker, "Two Black Atlantic Men" *DePauw University Black Studies Program*.

December 8, 2006 *George Washington University Seminar in the Nineteenth Century "Early 19th-Century Black Atlantic Identities."*

November 2006: Invited panelist. *Race, Ethnicity and Place Conference*, Texas State University, San Marcos, TX. Paper presented: "The African Diaspora in the Atlantic Region."

July 2006: Invited commentator: Comments on papers for "Black Political Identities in the Atlantic World" panel. *Society for Historians of the Early American Republic*.

May 2005: Guest on "Africa meets Africa" radio show, Washington, DC

April 2005 *Keynote Speaker: Africa Week*, George Washington University

April 2005: *Discussant and panel chair, Conference on the United States and West Africa*. University of Texas at Arlington

February 2005: *Keynote Speaker, Black History Month program*. Columbia University, New York

January 2004: *Chair, Panel on Women and Religion in Twentieth Century America*, American Society of Church History Meeting.

July 2003: *Invited Panelist, "Diaspora African Heritage"*. *Africando Conference*, Miami Florida, sponsored by *The Foundation for Democracy in Africa*.

February 2003, *Invited Panelist. African American Research Library and Cultural Center, Broward County Public Libraries, Ft. Lauderdale, Florida., Black Heritage Series Forum, Africa and the African Diaspora in the 21st Century*

March 2002: *Invited Panelist: Emancipation in Comparative Perspective*, sponsored by the *Joint Consortium for the Study of Slavery and Freedom*, Georgetown University.

November 2001: *Invited guest speaker, Office of International Programs Global Perspectives Series 2001-2002*, Winston Salem State University, Winston Salem, NC. *Lecture: "We Have The Cause Of Africa At Heart: "New World Blacks Return To Africa*

October 2001: *Invited commentator for conference: Sisterhood and Slavery: Transatlantic Antislavery and*

Blyden

Women's Rights. Yale University, Gilder Lehrman Center for the Study of Slavery, Resistance & Abolition.

May 2001: Invited participant: workshop. Dartmouth College, Hanover, NH. Invited panelist for workshop: *Atlantic Crossings: Women's Voices, Women's Stories from the Caribbean and the Nigerian Hinterland*. Paper presented: "Black women speaking in the voice of others."

April 2000: Invited speaker. Shippensburg, Pennsylvania. Public lecture on Sierra Leone.

February 2000: Invited speaker for Africa panel ("Teaching the colonial period in African history"). Austin, Texas. "World 2000: Conference on Teaching World History and World Geography. September 1999: Invited participant: workshop. University of Tennessee, Knoxville. *Black women in the Old World and New: paper presented: "The Search for Anna Erskine: settler women in nineteenth century Liberia"*.

April 1997: Invited participant and panelist "Lives In Africa: A Symposium in honor of Eugenia Herbert, E. Nevius Rodman Professor of History" at Mount Holyoke College, South Hadley, MA.

December 1997: Invited participant. "West Indians in Sierra Leone: Race, Class and Ethnicity in a British colony" paper presented at Rutgers Center for Historical Analysis, New Brunswick, NJ

Presentations

September 2005: Clare College, University of Cambridge. Paper presented "A black transatlantic migrant and identity in late 18th/early 19th century Sierra Leone". Fifth annual conference of The British Group in Early American History on "Diasporas, Migration, and Identities"

February 2004: Paper presented "Thomas Carew: A 'Black' Transatlantic Migrant". Eighteenth Annual DeBartolo Conference on Eighteenth Century Studies, University of South Florida.

October 2002: East Tennessee State University, Conference of Tennessee Historians, Johnson City, TN. Paper presented: "The Erskine Family of Tennessee and Liberia"

May 2002: Warwick University, Coventry, UK. Paper presented "Black West Indians in British colonial administration - a different kind of colonizer?"

January 2002: University of the West Indies (MONA), Jamaica. Paper presented "West Indians and the press in 19th century Sierra Leone"

November 2001: African Studies Association, Houston, TX: Paper presented: "New World Diasporas in Africa: West Indians and African Americans in 19th Century Freetown"

April 2000: Organization of American Historians conference. St. Louis, Missouri. Paper presented: "Diasporic Cross fertilizations: American, West Indian, and African Exchanges among Nineteenth-century Emigrants to Sierra Leone."

November 1996: African Studies Association (San Francisco). ", Paper presented: "West Indians in Sierra Leone"

Manuscript reviews/committees/Miscellaneous

*Manuscript review: *The African Diaspora: A History Through Culture*, Patrick Manning, Oxford University Press.

*Manuscript review: *The New Americans: A Handbook to Immigration Since 1965*, Mary C. Waters and Reed Ueda, Editors, Harvard University Press

Blyden

**Reviewer for New York University Press, September 2005*

**Reviewer for New York University Press, February 2004*

**Reviewer for University of North Carolina Press, January 2003*

**Member: Local arrangements committee – African Studies Association – December 2002.*

**Reviewer for Radical History Review, January 2002*

**Reviewer for Indiana University Press, January 2002*

**Reviewer for Longman Publishers, December 2001*

**Reviewer for Houghton Mifflin: Summer 1999*

**Participant in Video: Shaping America, Dallas County Community College District, R. Jan LeCroy Center for Educational Telecommunications, 2000/2001*

**Member: Core committee on Women and minorities (UTD) 1999/2000.*

**Member: Women's Center committee (UTD) 1998 - present.*

**Member: Local arrangements committee - Southern Historical Association - Fall 1999.*

**Reviewed several chapters of a history text for Houghton Mifflin - Summer 1999.*

**Speaker, Black History Month "Big Dinner" – University of Texas, Dallas, February 1999.*

**Co-organizer "Voyage to Africa", 1991-1993. Summer program for youth.*

OTHER ACTIVITIES

**Technical Advisory Board: Africa Center for Health and Security, The George Washington University*

**Consultant for "In Motion: the African-American Migration Experience", a digital archive project for the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, New York Public Library: www.inmotionaame.org*

**Invited participant/consultant, Schomburg Teachers Forum, Summer 2002*

HONORS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

Recipient: Columbian College Departmental Undergraduate Advising Award May 2005

Inducted to Phi Beta Delta Honor Society, Beta Omicron Chapter (George Washington University), March 2004.

Appointed as non-budgeted faculty member to Elliott School of International Affairs, January 2004.

Yale Center for International and Area Studies, Dissertation research grant, 1994

Recipient: The Frances Harriet Williams Award (Mount Holyoke College) - January 1987 ("This award, established in honor of Frances Harriet Williams '19, is presented annually to an African American, Asian American, Hispanic American, or Native American junior or senior student at Mount Holyoke College who best exemplifies the ideals to which Miss Williams's life was dedicated—the capacity to create a dream, the passion to pursue it, and the ability to soar with that goal, whether it be academic excellence, social justice, or service to others".)

Upper-class Academic Adviser, Mount Holyoke College - 1987

Baccalaureate Speaker (Mount Holyoke College) -May 1987

Elected to Xi Chapter of Sigma Iota Rho (Mount Holyoke College) - May 1986

Member US Achievement Academy