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EDUCATION

Ph.D.	University of California, Berkeley, 1985
M.A.	University of California, Berkeley, 1981
B.S.	State University College of Oneonta, 1977

EMPLOYMENT

UNIVERSITY	RANK	DATE
University of California, Davis	Vice Provost, Undergraduate Studies	2006-present 1999-2004
University of California, Davis	Interim Dean Humanities, Arts & Cultural Studies	2004-2006
University of California, Davis African-American & African Studies Program / American Studies Program	Professor Associate Professor	1997-present 1993-1997
	Assistant Professor	1990-1993
University of Massachusetts, Boston Black Studies Department	Assistant Professor	1985-1990

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

Books:

Crafted Lives: Stories and Studies of African-American Quilters, University of Mississippi Press, January 2009

Whispers on the Color Line: Rumor and Race in America, with Gary Alan Fine, University of California Press, August 2001.

Ceramic Uncles and Celluloid Mammies: Black Images and Their Influence on Culture, Anchor Books. 1994.
• *named by Gustavus Meyers Center For The Study of Human Rights as an Outstanding Book on the subject of Human Rights in North America 1995
• *nominated for Book of the Year by Women's Heritage Museum 1995

I Heard It Through The Grapevine: Rumor in African-American Culture, University of California Press, 1993, paperback 1994.

Articles:

"The Rise and Fall of Eliza Harris: From Novel to Tom Shows to Quilts" Uncle Tom's Cabin and American Culture 2007, <http://jefferson.village.virginia.edu>

"The Creation of Plausibility" Rumor Mills: The Social Impact of Rumor and Legend ed by Gary Alan Fine,

Veronique Campion-Vincent and Chip Heath, Aldine Publishing Company 2005, 169-72.

"Quilting" Black Women in America ed by Darlene Clark Hine, Oxford University Press 2005, 566-69

"Pots, Kettles, and Interpretations of Blackness" Western Folklore Spring 2002, 5-19.

"Contemporary Legends and claims of Corporate Malfeasance: Race, Fried Chicken and the Marketplace" with Gary Alan Fine, De Paul Law Review, Winter 2000, 635-646.

"Watermelons" Rooted in America: Foodlore of Popular Fruits and Vegetables ed by David Scofield Wilson and Angus Kress Gillespie, The University of Tennessee Press 1999, 211-223.

"From Talma Gordon to Theresa Galloway: Images of African-American Women in Mysteries" The Black Scholar 1998, 23-26.

"Folklore, African-American" entry for American Folklore: An Encyclopedia ed. by Jan Harold Brunvand, Garland Publishing Inc. 1996, 8-12.

"Liz Claiborne-Satanist or Racist? A Topsy-Eva Contemporary Legend Cycle" Folklore Interpreted: Essays in Honor of Alan Dundes ed. by Regina Bendix and Rosemary Levy Zumwalt, Garland Publishing Inc. 1995, 111-120.

"Ambivalent Patrons: The Role of Rumor and Contemporary Legends in African-American Consumer Decisions" Journal of American Folklore Fall 1992, 424-44

"From Homer to Hoke: A Small Step for African-American Mankind" Journal of Negro Education Summer Yearbook, 1991, 342-53

"The Atlanta Child Killer: A Case Study of Rumor in the Afro-American Community" Creative Ethnicity ed. Stephen Stern and John Allan Cicalia Utah State University Press April, 1991, 75-86

"Tainted Glory: Truth and Fiction in Contemporary Hollywood" Trotter Institute Review Spring 1990, 5-9

"A Kinder, Gentler FBI" Trotter Institute Review Spring 1990, 19-20

"Alligator Bait" International Folklore Review, 1989, 75-79

"Everything is not Satisfactual" Trotter Institute Review Winter 1987, 16-17

"The Chicken and the Klan: A Rhetorical Analysis of Rumor in the Black Community" Western Folklore October 1987, 294-306

"The Good Old Days" Trotter Institute Review Fall, 1987, 21-22

"Safety in Stereotypes- A Study of Anti-Black Material Blason Populaire" International Folklore Review, 198, 28-34

"Blacks in Disguise" Trotter Institute Review Summer, 1987, 19-21

Short Essays and Reviews:

"Patchwork History of Hate," The Los Angeles Times August 14, 2009

"Home to Montgomery: Riché Richardson's Portraits," Portraits From Montgomery to Paris: Appliqué Quilts exhibition catalogue, Troy University Art Museum, July 2008, pp 3-5.

Review of Barbara Neely, Blanche Cleans Up, San Francisco Chronicle March 22, 1998, 5.

Review of Chester Himes, Yesterday Will Make You Cry, San Francisco Chronicle March 1, 1998, 7.

Review of Morrison, Toni Paradise, San Francisco Chronicle January 11, 1998, 1.

"Vivid Forays into Black Pulp Fiction", San Francisco Chronicle May 18, 1997,4.

Review of Dyson, Michael Eric Race Rules: Navigating the Color Line in Emerge November 1996

"Marlon Riggs Remembered" Humanities Network Summer 1994

"A Paradox for Blacks" Boston Globe December 30, 1989

"The Golliwog Market" Boston Globe February 22, 1989

"The Significance of collecting Black Oral History" in It Wasn't Her Lifetime, But It Was Handed Down: Four Black Oral Histories of Massachusetts, ed. Eleanor Wachs, The Commonwealth Museum, February 1989

"Students With Heavy Burdens" Boston Globe December 4, 1988

"Disney's Racist Film" Boston Globe November 29, 1986

VIDEO, TELEVISION and RADIO

"Riché Deianne Richardson: Portrait of the Artist" produced by Géraldine Chouard and Anne Ciémieux 2007, Consulting Scholar

"American Icons: Gone With The Wind" Studio 360 produced by Public Radio International and WNYC 2006, Consulting Scholar

"The Telling Takes Us Home" documentary series for National Public Radio 1999, Consulting Scholar

"The Black Caricature" documentary for BET 1996, Consulting Scholar

"Black Is/Black Ain't", documentary for PBS 1995, Consulting Scholar

"The Celluloid Closet" documentary series for PBS 1995, Consulting Scholar

"Color Adjustment" documentary PBS debut June 1992, Consulting Scholar
1992 Peabody Award Winner

"Dorothy West" documentary WGBH 1990, Consulting Scholar

"Blacks in Boston" December 1988, Consulting Scholar

"Ethnic Notions" documentary February 1987, Consulting Scholar
1989 Recipient Emmy Award Best Original Research in a Documentary

ACADEMIC/TEACHING AWARDS

Davis Humanities Institute Fellow	1994-1995
Outstanding Faculty Member--Delta Sigma Theta Sorority U.C. Davis Chapter	1992
Faculty Development Award - UC, Davis	1991
Distinguished Faculty Award - U Mass, Boston Black Student Center	1989-1990
NEH Summer Seminar - Harvard University	1988
DuBois Summer Fellow - Harvard University	1988
Ford Teaching Fellow - U Mass, Boston	1987-1988
Educational Improvement Grant - UC Berkeley	1984-1985
Wollenberg Alumni Award - UC Berkeley	1983
Humanities Graduate Research Grant - UC Berkeley	1983
Graduate Minority Fellowships - UC Berkeley	1979 & 1983
Recognition by Task Force on Black Hispanic Studies and Activities for Academic Excellence - SUC Oneonta	1977
New York State Regents Scholarship	1973-1977

INVITED PAPERS/LECTURES

"Nine Patch Notations: News From African-American Quilters" Ohio State University, Columbus, OH, April 2, 2009

"Evaluation of the Black Image" Folsom History Museum, Folsom, CA, January 31, 2009

"Stormy Weather" St. Mary's College, Moraga, CA, October 9, 2008

"Mildred's Quilt" Riverside Metropolitan Art Museum, March 29, 2008

"Category Five: Rumors, Race and Hurricane Katrina" University of Georgia, Athens, August 29, 2007

"The Rise and Fall of Eliza Harris: From Novel to Tom Shows to Quilts" Uncle Tom's Cabin and American Culture, Harriet Beecher Stowe House, June 2, 2007

"Celebrations in African American Culture" Summer Teachers Institute, UCLA, July 7, 2001

"We're Going to Lose the Vote!: Contemporary African American Rumors and Legends" Mills College, Oakland, CA, March 4, 2002

"Pots, Kettles, and Interpretations of Blackness in the Use of Proverbs" Archer Taylor Memorial Lecture, California Folklore Society, April 22, 2001

"Black Memorabilia in the Academy" Berkeley Art Center, Berkeley, CA October 11, 2000

"Say What! The Role and Impact of Urban Legends," Harvard University, JFK School of Government, March 21, 2000

"From Exploitation to Appropriation? Viewing Contemporary Black Images from a Historical Perspective" University of Kentucky, February 28, 2000

"Please Forward This: Cultural Markers in E-Mail Legends" Holy Names College/Oakland CA International Humor Conference July 2, 1999

"This Little Light of Mine: A Study of African-American Quilters" University of Tokyo/Japan, June 8, 1998

"I Know It's True, I Heard it on Oprah: Rumors on Fashion and Food" University of Michigan/Dearborn March 26, 1998

"Quilts as a Metaphor" Modesto Junior College March 24, 1998

"Rumor and Legend in the African-American Community" Sacramento City College February 26, 1998

"Threads of Power: The Many Uses of African-American Quilts" UC Davis November 4, 1997

"From Tamara Gordon to Theresa Galloway: Images of African American Women in Mysteries" 1st Annual Chester Himes Conference Oakland Museum May 4, 1996

"African American Quilts" The Haggin Museum/Stockton March 2, 1996

"Exploring Ethnic Notions" Facing History and Ourselves June 27, 1995

"Inebriated Post-Docs and Lascivious Lecturers: Images of Academics in Popular Film" Keynote Address Undergraduate Research Conference UC Davis April 8, 1995

"African-American/African Folklore: Its Roots and Contemporary Expression" Keynote address at 6th Annual Conference on African American Culture and Experience, University of North Carolina--Greensborough, March 30, 1995

"Rumors in Black and White" Institute for African-American Studies University of Connecticut/Storrs February 9, 1995

"Women in the Media" Women's Research Center, Spellman College, September 26, 1994

"19th Century Black Faces--20th Century Racial Conflict" Facing History in Ourselves Conference, Boston, MA, May 1992.

PROFESSIONAL PAPERS

"Citizen Obama" paper delivered at the Western States Folklore Society Meetings, April 17, 2009

"I Had the Best Night's Sleep I've Had in Eight Years: Personal Experience Narratives and the Obama Campaign" paper delivered at International Society for Study of Contemporary Legends, June 6, 2009

"What Do Barack Obama and Snapple Iced Tea Have In Common" paper delivered at the American Folklore Society Meeting, October 24, 2008

"All the Way From Africa: African Aesthetics in African-American Quilt Design" paper delivered at American Folklore Society Meeting, October 19, 2007

"Danger, Disease and Death in Davis: Emergent Conspiracy and Contamination Beliefs in a University Town" paper delivered at the Social Consequences of Rumor and Legend Conference, Bellagio, Italy, April 18, 2003

"We Laughs All The time: Love, Laughter and African-American Quilters" paper delivered at International Society for the Study of Humor Conference, Bertinoro, Italy, July 5, 2002

"Every Day Been Sunday Since: Love and Marriage in African-American Quilts" paper delivered at the California Folklore Society Annual Meeting, April 12, 2002

"Shades of Ron Brown, Tupac Shakur and Tommy Hilfiger" paper delivered at International Society for Contemporary Legend Research meetings July 24, 1998.

"Who's Reading What?" A Study of African American Mystery Writers, paper delivered at the American Studies Association Meetings November 1996.

"Material Worth: A Preliminary Study of Three African-American Folk Artists" paper delivered at the California Folklore Society meetings April 1996.

"Lights Out", paper delivered at International Society for Contemporary Legend Research meetings, July 1994.

"Liz Claiborne -- Satanist or Racist? A Topsy-Eva Contemporary Legend Cycle" paper delivered at International Society for Contemporary Legend Research meetings, April 1993.

"Watermelon in Black and White" paper delivered at American Folklore Society meetings October 1992 and California Folklore Society meetings April 1993

"Topsy/Eva Patterns in American Rumors and Legends" paper delivered at California Folklore Society meetings April 1992

"Ambivalent Patrons: The Role of Rumor and Contemporary Legends in African-American Consumer Decisions" Paper delivered at California Folklore Society Meetings April 1991

"They Want Us To Take All Those Drugs: A Study of Conspiracy Rumors Amongst African-Americans". Paper delivered at American Folklore Society Meetings, October, 1990

"Tainted Glory" Invited paper delivered at forum; "The Role of the Media in Racial Stereotyping" University of Mass., Boston, February, 1990 and Davis Humanities Institute May 1991

"Unlimited Good: A Study of African-American Vernacular Architecture and Worldview" paper delivered at American Folklore Society Meetings, October 1989

"See, They Didn't Care What Happen to Black Folks: An AIDS Urban Legend and Afro-American Worldview" paper delivered at American Folklore Society meetings October, 1988

"Body Images in Afro-American Rumors and Legends" paper delivered at New England American Studies

meetings, April 1988

"The Atlanta Child Murders: A Case Study of Rumor in the Black Community" paper delivered at American Folklore Society meetings, October, 1987

"Back to the Kitchen: Images of Afro-Americans in Contemporary Collectibles" Invited paper delivered at Rutgers University, March, 1987

"The Chicken and the Klan: A Rhetorical Analysis of Rumor in the Black Community" paper delivered at American Folklore Society meetings, October 1986

"Worldview and Vernacular Architecture: A Case Study" paper delivered at Folklore Colloquium, Harvard University, April, 1986

"Jacksonalia: A Study of Three Contemporary Black Folk Heroes" paper delivered at American Folklore Society Meetings, October, 1985

"Alligator Bait" paper delivered at American Folklore Society Meetings, October 1984

"So Many Slaves, So Little Lore" paper delivered at California Folklore Society Meetings, April, 1984

"Slave Voices" Presentation at the Eastern Communications Association Meetings, March, 1984

"Trends in Afro-American Research" Panel Participant, Oakland Museum, February 1984

"Racist Stereotypes in Anti-Black Material Blason Populaire" paper delivered at California Folklore Society Meetings, April 1983

Moderator/Round Tables

Round table participant, "Crafting Obama: Quilts to iPhones" Black Family Week, University of California, Davis, Davis, CA, May 13, 2009

Round table participant, "Humanities Hotspots" Reinvention Center Bi-Annual Meeting, Washington, DC, November 12, 2008

Round table moderator, "Flood, Culture, Loss, and Geology—The Impact of Hurricane Katrina" Mondavi Center, Davis, CA, March 6, 2008

Round table participant, University of California, General Education Forum, Center for Studies in Higher Education, Berkeley, CA, September 12, 2007

Round table participant, "Inside Out and Outside In: Educational Trajectories in African American Quiltmaking Practices" Traditions and Trajectories: Education and the Quiltmaker, International Quilt Study Center, Lincoln, NE, March 3, 2007

Round table moderator, "Within the Humanities and the Humanistic Social Sciences" Transforming the Culture: Undergraduate Education and the Multiple Functions of the Research University, Washington, DC, November 10, 2006

Round table participant, "Talking to the News Media" Pro Femina Research Consortium November 3, 1997

Round table participant, "History on Film: Glory and The Fifty-fourth Massachusetts Regiment" Hope and Glory: Centennial Celebration of the Augustus Saint-Gaudens Monument to Robert Gould Shaw and the Fifty-Fourth Massachusetts Regiment May 30, 1997

Round table participant, "Popular Culture in the Americas: The Local and the Hemispheric" Coloring the Humanities: (Inter)disciplinary /Intertribal Discourses Conference UC Davis, May 16, 1997

Moderator, "The In Sound From Way Out: Transculturation, Genre, and Ideology" disChord: A Conference on Contemporary Popular Music UCLA May 9, 1997.

Moderator, Black Power/Black Art UC Davis Humanities Institute Visual Culture Cluster May 18, 1995

EXHIBITS

Eastville Heritage House, "From Functional to Fancy: An Eastville Quilt Sampler" July 18-August 13, 2009, Guest Curator

Museum of American Folk Art, "Sign Sculpture: Shop and Cigar Store Figures in America" 1997, Consulting Scholar

Richmond Art Center, "Showing Up: Maximum Contrast African American Quilts" January-March 1996, Consulting Scholar

Museum of Our National Heritage, "History of Folklore Exhibit" October 1988, Consulting Scholar

Smithsonian Annual Folklife Festival 1988, prepared text for history of African-American Folklore display

Editorial Boards

University of Mississippi Press, Margaret Walker Alexander Series on African American Studies, 1999

Folklore 1999

American Quarterly, 1997-2001

SELECTED ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE & SERVICE

Member, Executive Board, Looking Back at Black	2009
Member, Executive Board, American Folklore Society	2006-2009
Secretary, Folklore Fellows	2006-2008
Member, Executive Board, Reinvention Center	2008-2010
Committee Chair, Ford Foundation Pre-Doctoral Fellowships	2002-2006
Member, NASULGC Commission-Human Resources and Social Change	2002-present
Vice Provost—Undergraduate Studies, UC Davis	1999-present
Director, African-American and African Studies	1998-2000
Member, PAAC	1997-1998
Member, Exec Council American Studies Assoc	1999
Member, Advisory Committee Living Roots Conference	1997-1998
Director, American Studies Program	1996-1997
Member, Program Committee American Studies Association	1996-1997
Member, California Council for the Humanities	1996-2001
Member, Board of Advisory Editors of American Quarterly	1996
Member, Nominating Committee American Studies Association	1995-1998
Member, Advisory Board Davis Humanities Center	1995-1998

Member HACS Steering Committee	1995-1997
Director, UC Davis MURALS Program	1993-1999
Board member, <i>Signifyin' Works</i>	1991-Present
Program Committee African-American & African Studies	1990-Present
Program Committee American Studies	1990-Present
1st Vice President California Folklore Society	1993-1995
Board Member, New England American Studies Association	1988
Member, Black Studies Consortium--Du Bois Institute	1987-1989
Member, New England Regional Black Studies Association	1985-1990
Member, Religious Studies Advisory Board	1987-1990
Member, Retention Study Task Force	1987-1988
Member, William Monroe Trotter Institute Advisory Council	1986-1987
Member, American Studies Advisory Board-U-Mass	1986-1990
Editor, Black Folklorists Newsletter	1986-1992
Folk Arts Presenter, Bread and Roses Festival, Lawrence, MA	1986
Member, Folklore Advisory Panel Mass Council on Arts and Humanities	1986
Coordinator, Black History Month Activities-UMass/Boston	1986-1987
Chair, Academic Outreach Committee for American Folklore Society Centennial Meetings	1988
Secretary, Folklorists in New England	1986-1987
Mason Tillman Associates Staff Historian	1984-1985
Folklore Film Festival Coordinator	1984
Interdisciplinary Folklore Alliance Member	1983-1985
Friends of the San Francisco Public Library City Guides Oral History Program Coordinator and Editor	1980-1982

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