

**MELYNDA JANE PRICE**

Director of the Institute for Research on Women and Gender  
Professor of Women's and Gender Studies  
Professor of Political Science (by courtesy)  
University of Michigan  
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**CURRENT ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT**

**2023- Present**

**Professor of Women's and Gender Studies and Director of the Institute for Research on Women and Gender**

**Professor of Political Science (by courtesy)**

University of Michigan

*Subjects Taught:* The Politics of Black Motherhood

*Select Examples of Leadership:* Women's and Gender Studies Executive Committee, member; Search committee for Direction of Partnerships with Minority Serving Institutions, member

**2018-present**

**John and Joan R. Gaines Professor of Humanities and Director of the Gaines Center for Humanities**

University of Kentucky

*Subjects taught:* Senior Thesis Workshop and Junior Fellows Humanities Seminar

*Select Examples of Leadership and Service:* Revamped the Undergraduate Fellows Selection process to align with federal and university privacy rules; established a faculty advisory board; begun expanding Center outreach to faculty; represented the Humanities Centers in relevant advisory committees and boards for the university and national organizations; completed an appraisal of facilities which has led to numerous improvements in facilities; selected faculty for seminars; worked with advisory board to update bylaws and operating rules; began a mini-grant program to support humanities programming throughout campus; and applied for sponsored research of center programming efforts.

**2006-present**

**University Research Professor and J. David Rosenberg Professor of Law**

College of Law, University of Kentucky

*Subjects taught:* Torts, Capital Punishment, Women and the Law, Law and Social Science, Immigration, Law and Popular Culture

*Research topics:* Race, Gender, Mothering, Citizenship, Punishment and the Role of Law in the Politics of Race, Ethnicity and Place and Victim's Rights

*Select Examples of Leadership and Service:* Member of Executive Committee (2014-2015, 2019-present), Chair of the Dean Search Committee for the College of Arts and Sciences (2020-2021), Member of Dean Search Committee for Gatton College of Business (2018), Chair, Appointments (2012-2016), Director of African American and Africana Studies Program in the College of Arts and Science (2012-2016), , Advisor Women's Law Caucus (2007-2016)

## **EDUCATION**

**2006: PhD, Political Science, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor**

Dissertation title: *At the Cross: Race and Religion in the Politics of the Death Penalty Among African Americans*

Dissertation Committee: Daniel Levine (Chair), Hanes Walton, Don Herzog and Kevin Gaines

- Fields: Comparative (Latin America), Race and Gender, American Politics
- Honors and Awards: Ford Foundation Predoctoral Fellowship, Rackham Merit Fellowship,

**2002: JD, University of Texas School of Law, Austin**

- Baron & Budd Scholarship for Public Interest Law (supported work at Texas Defender Service, Austin, Texas)
- University of Texas Co-op Award for Public Interest Law
- Texas International Law Journal

**1995: BS, Physics (*cum laude*), Prairie View A&M University, Prairie View, TX**

## **RECENT ACADEMIC AWARDS**

**2017-2020**

**Galsworthy Fellow**, The Center for the Study of Human Flourishing, The King's College  
**2018**

**Visiting Researcher, Mannheim Centre for Criminology and Criminal Justice, London School of Economics**

**University Research Professor**, University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY

**Sonia Sanchez Series Presenter**, Kentucky Women Writers Conference, Lexington, KY

**2016–2017**

**Fellow, Program in Law and Public Affairs**, Woodrow Wilson School for Public Policy, Princeton University, Princeton, NJ (also taught undergraduate course: Law and Politics of Punishment in Freshmen Seminar program)

**Fellowship, Radcliffe Institute**, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA (awarded but declined)  
**2016**

**National Science Foundation Law and Society Section RAPID Grant**, Collaborative Multi-Racial Post-Election Survey with Bridgett King (Auburn) and Emily Beaulieu (University of Kentucky), \$94,000

**2013**

Duncan Teaching Award at the College of Law, University of Kentucky

**2008-2009**

**Ford Foundation Postdoctoral Fellowship** (host institution: University of Texas at Austin School of Law Capital Punishment Clinic)

## ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS

\*“The Afterlife of Black Motherhood” (under review at the Journal of African American History)

“The Self-Interested Politics of Collective Religious Transformation: Issues of Family Definition and LGBT Inclusion in Black Churches,” in *The Sexual Politics of Black Churches*, ed. Josef Sorett (Columbia University Press, 2022)

“Monumental Questions and How We Honor Them: A Summary of the 2019 Kentucky Law Journal Symposium,” *Kentucky Law Journal* (2019)

“Blacks for Trump: Who are the African Americans Who Voted for Supported the President? And Why Did They Vote for Them?” (with Ray Block, Jr and Patrick L. Mason) (accepted for publication in the Journal of Race, Ethnicity, and Politics)

“Social Network and Contextual Effects: Felony Disenfranchisement and African American Voter Turnout in 2016” with Emily Beaulieu and Bridgett King (under review at Public Research Quarterly)

\*“Expanding Reach: The Importance of *Batson v. Kentucky* Thirty Years On”, *Kentucky Law Journal*, vol. 105, no. 4 (2016-2017)

\**At the Cross: Race, Religion and Citizenship in the Politics of the Death Penalty among African Americans* (Oxford University Press, 2015)

\*“Are We Imprisoned in Narratives of Progress? The Work of Hanes Walton and Its Lessons for an Afrofuturistic Black Politics,” *Politics, Groups and Identities* 1, no. 4 (2013)

“Policing the Borders of Democracy: The Continuing Role of *Batson* in Protecting the Citizenship Rights of the Excluded,” *Iowa Law Review* (Spring 2012)

\*“Performing Discretion or Performing Discrimination: An Analysis of Race and Ritual in *Batson* Decisions in Capital Jury Selection,” *Michigan Journal of Race and Law* 15 (Fall 2009)

\*“Balancing Lives: Individual Accountability and the Death Penalty as Punishment for Genocide (Lessons from Rwanda),” *Emory International Law Journal* 21 (Spring 2008)

“Litigating Salvation: Race, Religion and Innocence in the Cases of Karla Faye Tucker and Gary Graham,” *Southern California Review of Law and Social Justice* (Spring 2006)

## WORKS IN PROGRESS

**When Black Mothers Weep: Race, Motherhood and Antiviolence Organizing** (book project)

## OTHER WRITING

“With a Baby on My Hip: Seeing and Being Seen in Kentucky”, *Kudzu* (special issue on women in Appalachia), Spring 2016

“As Marriage Expands So Does Singlehood,” *New York Times*, July 6, 2015, <http://www.nytimes.com/roomfordebate/2015/07/06/has-being-single-in-america-changed/as-marriage-expands-so-does-singlehood>

“Polygamy as a Democratic Right,” *New York Times*, December 17, 2013, updated July 2, 2015, <http://www.nytimes.com/roomfordebate/2013/12/17/should-plural-marriage-be-legal/polygamy-as-a-democratic-right>

“Back to School Advice: Be Curious, *ACE Weekly*, August 6, 2014, <https://www.aceweekly.com/2014/08/back-to-school-advice-be-curious/>

“Get Rid of the Right to Bear Arms,” *New York Times*, July 8, 2012, , updated as “Revisiting the Constitution: Do We Really Need the Second Amendment” on July 8, 2012, <http://www.nytimes.com/roomfordebate/2012/07/08/another-stab-at-the-us-constitution/revisiting-the-constitution-do-we-really-need-the-second-amendment>

“Thoughts in the Aftermath of an Execution,” *Tidal Basin Review* (Spring 2012)

“What Does ‘Next of Kin’ Mean?” *New York Times*, February 15, 2012, <http://www.nytimes.com/roomfordebate/2012/02/13/family-ties-without-tying-the-knot/what-next-of-kin-means>

“The Trouble with the Help,” *ACE Weekly*, August 26, 2011; reprinted in *Pluck! Journal of Affrilachian Arts and Culture* (January 2012)

“Everything I Know About Power My Uncles Learned in Viet Nam,” in *Lone Star Legacy: African American History in Texas*, ed. Delicia Daniels (2011).

“Randall Horton, The Ridge, and Why Family Is Not Enough to Make the World Do the Right Thing,” in *Pluck! Journal of Affrilachian Arts and Culture* (July 2011).

Blog, *Thoughts of an Ivory Tower Interloper*, <http://ivorytowerinterloper.blogspot.com/> (2008–present)

## **SELECT EXAMPLES OF PROFESSIONAL AND CIVIC ENGAGEMENT**

**2017-present** Board Member, University of Kentucky Art Museum

**2017-2020** Editorial Board, University Presses of Kentucky

**2014–2019** Board member, Lexington Community Radio

**2007–2012** Volunteer, Maxwell Street Legal Clinic, Lexington, program of Kentucky Equal Justice Center

**2007–2008** Lexington Public Library Village Branch, Bilingual Volunteer with After School Homework Assistance Program

**2006–2012** Board member, Kentucky Equal Justice Center

## **MOST RECENT CONFERENCES AND PRESENTATIONS**

**2022**

July: “*The Afterlife of Black Motherhood*” at Black Political Theory and History Workshop, Bordeaux, France.

**2019**

October: Written in Stone: American Monuments and Monument-Protection Laws (Kentucky Law Journal Symposium) organized with Professor Zachary Bray.

May: “What Would Mama Do: Save Our Sons and Daughters and Anti-Violence Organizing among Black Mothers of Murdered Children in Detroit” at Annual Meeting of Law and Society Association, Washington, D.C.

June: “Beyond Law Review Articles and Legal Textbooks” at Lutie Lytle Black Women Law Professors Workshop, State College, PA

## **2018**

August: “Violence and Antiviolence Organizing Among Black Mothers” at American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Boston, MA

“Blacks for Trump: Who are the African Americans Who Voted for Supported the President? And Why Did They Vote for Them?” at 2018 CMSP Summer Research Workshop at UCLA

June: “Do Blacks Die Alone?: The Role of Collective Identities in Individual African American Views of the Death Penalty” at Law on Trial 2018: Punishment and Rights Violation Conference at Birkbeck, University of London

May: “What Would Mama Do: Save Our Sons and Daughters and Anti-Violence Organizing among Black Mothers of Murdered Children in Detroit” at Institut du Monde Anglophone at Université Sorbonne Nouvelle, Paris, France

February: Moderator for Public Conversation with former Attorney General Eric Holder at UK College of Law, Lexington

Moderator for “Transnational Criminalization of Sexuality, Reproductive Choice, & Gender Expression” at Sexual and Reproductive Health Symposium at University of Kentucky, Lexington

**2015** Organized (with Nan Woodruff (U.S. History and African American Studies, Penn State University), workshop of historians, social scientists, and legal and education scholars to discuss research on Memory and the Legacies of Violence in the US and Abroad at the National Humanities Center in Raleigh, North Carolina

## **OTHER ACADEMIC SERVICE**

### **University of Kentucky**

**2021- present** Chair, Appointments Committee in College of Law  
UNITE Research Priority Advisory Board

**2020** Chair, Dean Search Committee for the College of Arts & Sciences  
Committee to Review the University Speech Policy

### **2018-present**

Area Committee for UK Libraries Faculty

**2018** Served on Dean Search Committee for the Gatton College of Business, University of Kentucky

**2017- present**

Member, Advisory Board for the University of Kentucky Art Museum

Member, Editorial Board for the University Presses of Kentucky

**2015–2016**

Member, Advisory Committee for the Women's Executive Leadership Development Program

**2015**

Member, committee in the College of Arts and Sciences that connected groups of undergraduate students with faculty mentors early in their academic careers

**2014–2015**

Member, Executive Committee, College of Law

**2014**

Initiated the Nelson Mandela Lecture in Community Sustainability, a biennial speaker series that focuses on the work of local community leaders who work to create sustainable human community in Lexington

**2013–2016**

Drafted faculty rules and proposal for a new African American and Africana Studies major. The request for the new major will be submitted in 2017.

**2013–2014**

Participant, new faculty orientation

**2012–2018**

Chair, Appointments Committee

**2010–2013**

Chair, Recruitment and Scholarship/Honors Committee

**2010–2011**

Member, University Committee on Planning and Priorities

**2009–2010**

Member, Advisory Council, African American & Africana Studies Program

Member, Lassiter Distinguished Professor Selection Committee

**2007–2016**

Advisor, Women's Law Caucus

**2007–2008**

Chair, Diversity Committee

**Other**

**2016**

Member, planning committee, Kentucky Law Journal 2016 fall symposium, titled 30 Years of *Batson*: A Retrospective

**2015–2016**

Member, Ferguson, Race and the Law Panel, Kentucky Law Update, Kentucky Bar Association, Prestonsburg (2015) and Lexington (2016)

With Christia Brown Spears, drafted the successful proposal for the Center for Equality and Social Justice at the University of Kentucky

**2014–2016**

Member, Advisory Board, Lutie Lytle Black Women Law Professors Writing Workshop.

**2014–2015**

With Alvin Tillery, co-chaired the fund-raising committee for the Hanes Walton, Jr. Award

**2013**

Member of ad hoc committee convened by APSA president Jane Mansbridge to evaluate rates of promotion and tenure for faculty of color within the discipline of political science

**2013**

With Alvin Tillery (Political Science, Northwestern), drafted a successful proposal for the APSA's Hanes Walton, Jr. Award, which recognizes contributions to the study of race and ethnicity

**2011–2014**

Co-chair, Committee on the Status of Blacks in the Profession, American Political Science Association

**2006–2009**

Instructor in the Summer Workshop of the Kentucky Legal Educational Opportunities Program

Instructor in the Academic Success Program of the Kentucky Legal Educational Opportunities Program

**OTHER GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS****2023****Mellon Foundation**

UK Monuments Workshop with Zachary Bray (University of Kentucky), \$1,900,000 (finalizing budget details with program officers)

**2020****UK U.N.I.T.E. Pilot Grant**

Monuments Project with Zachary Bray (\$12,000)

**2016****National Science Foundation Collaborative Grant**

Community Disenfranchisement Project with Bridgett King (Auburn) and Emily Beaulieu (University of Kentucky), \$300,000 (submitted, denied)

**2008–2009****Ford Foundation Diversity Postdoctoral Fellowship**

Capital Punishment Center, University of Texas School of Law

**2000–2001****Baron & Budd Scholarship for Public Interest Law****1996–1999****Ford Foundation Predoctoral Fellowship****1995, 1996, 2002, 2003****Rackham Merit Fellowship, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor**

## **PREVIOUS ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT**

**2016–2017**

**Visiting Research Fellow, Law and Public Affairs Program, Princeton University**

Taught course (Law and Politics of Punishment) in Freshmen Seminar

**2013–2017**

**Director African American & Africana Studies Program**

College of Arts and Sciences, University of Kentucky

**2009–present**

Affiliated faculty, Quantitative Initiative for Policy and Social Research, University of Kentucky

**2006–present**

Affiliated faculty, African American & Africana Studies Program, University of Kentucky

Affiliated faculty and Graduate faculty, Gender and Women's Studies Program, University of Kentucky

**2009–2017**

**Robert E. Harding, Jr. Professor of Law**

(Promoted to Associate in 2009 and Full in 2015)

College of Law, University of Kentucky, Lexington

**2002–2006**

**Graduate Student Instructor and Administrative Assistant**

Department of Political Science and Center for Afroamerican and African Studies, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor

—Taught Introduction to American Politics, Introduction to Comparative Politics, Special Topics: Affirmative Action and Reparations

—Graded African American Politics (2 semesters)

**Instructor**

Department of Political Science, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor

—Taught Comparative Religion and Politics

**1997–1999**

**Instructor**

Department of Political Science, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor

—Taught Comparative Religion and Politics

**Graduate Student Instructor**

Center for Afroamerican and African Studies and Women's Studies Program, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor

—Taught Introduction to African American Studies and Issues of Women of Color



## **OTHER CONFERENCES AND PRESENTATIONS**

### **Organizing**

#### **2016**

April: Organized the 22nd Annual Black Women's Conference for the African American & Africana Studies Program, University of Kentucky

Theme: #SayHerName: Black Women and State Violence

#### **2015**

March: Organized the 21st Annual Black Women's Conference for the African American & Africana Studies Program, University of Kentucky

Theme: Leap for Joy: Black Women and Dance

April: With Nan Woodruff (U.S. History and African American Studies, Penn State University), organized workshop of historians, social scientists, and legal and education scholars to discuss research on Memory and the Legacies of Violence in the US and Abroad at the National Humanities Center in Raleigh, North Carolina

#### **2014**

March: Organized the 20th Annual Black Women's Conference for the African American & Africana Studies Program, University of Kentucky

Theme: Finding Our Place: A Conference in Honor of the Work of bell hooks

#### **2013**

March: Organized the 19th Annual Black Women's Conference for the African American & Africana Studies Program, University of Kentucky

Theme: Voices of Resistance: Black Women and the Power of Music

#### **2012**

May: Organized Pencilshout, a three-day writing workshop for Black women creative and academic writers

Supported by a \$3,000 Arts Meets Activism Grant from the Kentucky Foundation for Women, Lexington

March: Organized the 18th Annual Black Women's Conference for the African American & Africana Studies Department, University of Kentucky

Theme: Learning the Ropes: Black Girlhood, Identity and the Power of Play

#### **2010**

June: Organized the 4th Annual Lutie Lytle Black Women Law Faculty Writing Workshop, University of Kentucky College of Law, Lexington

### **Presentations**

#### **2018**

September: ““What Would Mama Do: Save Our Sons and Daughters and Anti-Violence Organizing among Black Mothers of Murdered Children in Detroit” at Black Politics, History, Theory Workshop at University of Texas at Austin

August: “Violence and Antiviolence Organizing Among Black Mothers” at American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Boston, MA

“Blacks for Trump: Who are the African Americans Who Voted for Supported the President? And Why Did They Vote for Them?” at 2018 CMSP Summer Research Workshop at UCLA

June: “Do Blacks Die Alone?: The Role of Collective Identities in Individual African American Views of the Death Penalty” at Law on Trial 2018: Punishment and Rights Violation Conference at Birkbeck, University of London

May: “What Would Mama Do: Save Our Sons and Daughters and Anti-Violence Organizing among Black Mothers of Murdered Children in Detroit” at Institut du Monde Anglophone at Université Sorbonne Nouvelle, Paris, France

February: Moderator for Public Conversation with former Attorney General Eric Holder at UK College of Law, Lexington

Moderator for “Transnational Criminalization of Sexuality, Reproductive Choice, & Gender Expression” at Sexual and Reproductive Health Symposium at University of Kentucky, Lexington

## **2017**

October: “What Would Mama Do: Save Our Sons and Daughters and Anti-Violence Organizing among Black Mothers of Murdered Children in Detroit” at Penn State University, State College

April: “What Would Mama Do: Save Our Sons and Daughters and Anti-Violence Organizing among Black Mothers of Murdered Children in Detroit” in Program in Law and Public Affairs at Princeton University

March: “What Would Mama Do: Save Our Sons and Daughters and Anti-Violence Organizing among Black Mothers of Murdered Children in Detroit” at Temple University School of Law and Cardozo Law School

January: Book presentation in Crossroads in Religion series at the Center for the Study of Religion, Princeton University, Princeton, New Jersey

## **2016**

March: “Does the Death Penalty Still Matter in Black Lives?” presentation in Department of Afroamerican & African Studies, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor

## **2015**

June: “Tilling in One’s Own Field,” Telluride Association, Ann Arbor, Michigan

February: “At the Cross,” Syracuse University, Syracuse, New York

## **2012**

June: “Incidents of Slavery: The Death Penalty and the Contemporary Relevance of the Thirteenth Amendment,” Lutie Lytle Black Women Law Faculty Workshop, Suffolk University School of Law, Boston

April: “99 Problems: African American Men and Police Interactions” (with Allison Connelly), S. T. Roach Conversations, University of Kentucky African American & Africana Studies Program, Lexington

May: “We Who Live among Them,” part of a six-week community study group based on Michelle Alexander’s *The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness*, using curriculum provided by the Samuel DeWitt Proctor Conference at the Nia Community of Faith, Lexington

April: Chaired panel on Academic Appointments, Black Women Lawyer’s Association of Chicago, 2012 National Summit of Women Lawyers, Chicago

March: “Whispers in the Dark: Privileged Recognitions in Law,” for the conference Rethinking Harper Lee’s *To Kill a Mockingbird* 50 Years Later: A Critical Race Perspective on Atticus Finch, Tom Robinson and Maycomb County, Alabama, Seattle University Law School in Seattle, Washington

## **2011**

October: “Policing the Borders of Democracy: The Continuing Role of Batson in Protecting the Citizenship Rights of the Excluded,” Symposium on the 25th Anniversary of Batson v. Kentucky, University of Iowa Law School, Iowa City

April: Gave presentation and led discussion on “The Knock at the Midnight Hour,” chapter 6 of Martin Luther King, Jr.’s *The Strength to Love*, MLK Mixtape Project, St. Paul A.M.E. Church, Lexington

March: “Ready for the Journey: Some Thought on Living an Activist Life,” keynote address, 18th Annual Black Women’s Conference, University of Kentucky, Lexington

March: Co-moderated a panel with Randall Horton titled “Criminal Justice and the Prison Industrial Complex,” Symposium on Affrilachia, University of Kentucky, Lexington

February: Moderated a panel entitled “Sociological Perspectives,” Inaugural James and Mary Lassiter Conference titled Structural Racism: Inequality in America Today, University of Kentucky College of Law, Lexington

## **2009**

October: “The Death Penalty and the Shared Legacy of Race,” Northern Kentucky Law Review Symposium on Race and the Death Penalty, Covington, Kentucky

May: “Doing Home Work: Researching Race and Searching for Justice in the Place of Your Birth,” Center for Afroamerican and African Studies, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor

August: “Who I Am: The Links between Private and Intellectual Life,” keynote address, University of Michigan Rackham School of Graduate Studies Summer Institute, Ann Arbor, MI

May: “Thoughts on Race, Power, and Death,” Resistencia Book Shop, Austin, Texas

April: "Racial Discrimination in Capital Jury Selection," University of Texas School of Law Capital Punishment Center Annual Symposium entitled Imprisoned by the Past: The Enduring Role of Race in the American Death Penalty, Austin

April: "Reflections on Race, Culture and the Death Penalty," University of Texas School of Law Capital Punishment Center Annual Symposium entitled Imprisoned by the Past: The Enduring Role of Race in the American Death Penalty, Austin

March: Co-chaired Section of Inequality and Social Justice, National Conference of Black Political Scientists Annual Meeting, Houston, Texas

March: Chaired panel titled "The Death Penalty and Modern Meaning of Social Justice" and presented paper, "Doing Home Work: Researching Race and Searching for Justice in the Place of Your Birth," National Conference of Black Political Scientists Annual Meeting, Houston, Texas

March: "Doing Home Work: Researching Race and Searching for Justice in the Place of Your Birth," National Conference of Black Political Scientists Annual Meeting, Houston, Texas

February: Moderated the panel titled "40 Acres and a Mule or the White House: Imagining Justice" at the conference Bringing Human Rights Home, Bernard and Audre Rapaport Center for Human Rights and Justice, University of Texas School of Law, Austin

## **2008**

November: "The Self-Interested Politics of Collective Religious Transformation: The Redefinition of Family and LGBT Inclusion in Black Churches," at A Convening of Scholars on African American Religion, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

October: Speaker, Capital Punishment Seminar, University of Texas School of Law, Austin

November: Chaired panel titled "Being a Successful Law Student" and taught mock class at National Black Pre-Law Conference in Houston, Texas

June: "Performing Discretion, Performing Discrimination: Race and Ritual in Capital Jury Selection," Lutie Lytle Black Women Law Professor's Conference, University of Denver, Denver, Colorado

April: "Litigating Salvation: Race/Gender, Religion and Innocence on the Texas Death Row," Wesleyan University Department of Political Science, Middletown, Connecticut

March: "The Curious Connection between Black People and Dogs in American Law and Politics: The Death Penalty as a Metric for the Quality of African American Citizenship," annual meeting of the National Conference of Black Political Scientists, Chicago

January: University of Kentucky College of Law Representative, American Association of Law School Annual Meeting, New York, New York

## **2007**

November: "They Make It Harder for Black Men: The Death Penalty and Its Imprint on Black Politics," at the conference Towards a Transformative Agenda on Race, Kirwan Institute for the Study of Race and Ethnicity, Ohio State University, Columbus

August: "They Make It Harder for Black Men: The Death Penalty and Its Imprint on Black Politics," annual meeting of the American Political Science Association, Chicago

## **2006**

March: “I Believe in Justice: Race and Ritual in Capital Jury Selection,” 13th Annual Black Women’s Conference, University of Kentucky, Lexington

November: “Litigating Salvation: Race, Religion, and Innocence in the Cases of Karla Faye Tucker and Gary Graham,” Carter G. Woodson Lecture, African American Studies and Research Program, University of Kentucky Martin Luther King Cultural Center, Lexington

July: “I Believe in Justice’: Race and Ritual in Capital Jury Selection,” Annual Law and Society Conference, Baltimore, Maryland

March: “I Believe in Justice’: Race and Ritual in Capital Jury Selection,” conference titled The Death Penalty, Texas Southern University Graduate School and Barbara Jordan/Mickey Leland School of Public Affairs, Houston

## **2005**

September: “Testing the Boundaries of Blackness: Race and the Politics of the Death Penalty Among African Americans,” annual meeting of the American Political Science Association, Washington, D.C.

September: “I Believe in Justice’: Race and Ritual in Capital Jury Selection,” pre-conference entitled Emerging Paradigms, Residual Issues, sponsored by the Women’s Caucus of the American Political Science Association, Washington, D.C.

March: “Litigating Salvation: Race, Religion and Innocence in the Cases of Karla Faye Tucker and Gary Graham,” annual meeting of the Association for the Study of Law, Culture and Humanities, Austin

March: “Folk Stories: The Historical Underpinnings of Contemporary Narratives of the Death Penalty in Texas,” Texas State Historical Association, Fort Worth

January: “Testing the Boundaries of Blackness: African Americans and Narratives of the Death Penalty,” Southern Political Science Association, New Orleans

## **2004**

June: “Testing the Boundaries of Blackness: African Americans and Narratives of the Death Penalty,” Law and Society Conference, Chicago

## **2003**

March: “Lessons from Karla: The Meaning of When the State Kills Women” presented at the conference Thinking Gender, University of California, Los Angeles

## **2002**

September: Selected participant in Women of Color Studies Workshop, annual meeting of the American Political Science Association Meeting, Boston

March: Co-participant (with Ruth Nicole Brown and Kimala Price) at the roundtable “Gaining Access to Sites and Participants,” at the graduate student conference The Stories We Tell: Strategies, Experiences, and Innovations in Qualitative Research, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor

March: Co-participant (with Ruth Nicole Brown, Kimala Price, and Deborah Schwartz) in the workshop “Doing Research in Your Own Backyard: The Challenges of Positionality, Objectivity, and Defamiliarization” at the graduate student conference The Stories We Tell:

Strategies, Experiences, and Innovations in Qualitative Research, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor

## **LEGAL EXPERIENCE**

2007–2012 Member, Board of Directors, Kentucky Equal Justice Center  
2008–2009 Visiting Research Scholar, Capital Punishment Center, University of Texas School of Law

## **HONORS**

2022 Inaugural J. David Rosenberg Professor of Law  
2017 Named University Research Professor  
2013 Duncan Teaching Award at the College of Law, University of Kentucky  
2006 Best Dissertation, Race and Ethnicity Politics Section of the American Political Science Association  
2003, 2004 Nominee, Kingdon Award for Outstanding Teaching, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor

## **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

Texas Bar Association  
American Association of Law Schools  
Law and Society Association  
American Political Science Association  
National Conference of Black Political Scientists  
Association for the Study of African American Life and History  
Berkshire Conference of Women Historians

## **CIVIC AND COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES**

2014–present Board member, Lexington Community Radio  
2007–2012 Volunteer, Maxwell Street Legal Clinic, Lexington, program of Kentucky Equal Justice Center  
2007–2008 Lexington Public Library Village Branch, Bilingual Volunteer with After School Homework Assistance Program  
2006–2012 Board member, Kentucky Equal Justice Center  
2003 Facilitator and member of organizing committee for America through the Lens of Race, film series commemorating the 50th anniversary of *Brown v. Board of Education* as part of community outreach for the theme semester in the College of Literature Science and Arts, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor

## **REFERENCES**

*Martha S. Jones*  
Society of Black Alumni Association

Presidential Professor of History  
Johns Hopkins University  
320 Gilman Hall  
3400 N. Charles Street  
Baltimore, MD 21218

Phone: 410-516-0615  
Email: [msjonz@jhu.edu](mailto:msjonz@jhu.edu)

***Nikky Finney***

John H. Bennett, Jr. Endowed Professor of Creative Writing and Southern Letters  
Carolina Distinguished Professor  
University of South Carolina

Phone: 803-777-9433  
Email: [finneyle@mailbox.sc.edu](mailto:finneyle@mailbox.sc.edu)

***Juliet Hooker***

Royce Family Professor of Teaching Excellence in Political Science  
Brown University  
Watson Institute of International and Public Affairs  
111 Thayer Street  
Providence, RI

Email: [Juliet\\_Hooker@brown.edu](mailto:Juliet_Hooker@brown.edu)

***Nan Elizabeth Woodruff***

Professor of Modern U.S. History and African American Studies  
219 Weaver Building  
University Park, PA 16802

Phone: (814) 867-5015  
Email: [new7@psu.edu](mailto:new7@psu.edu)

***Zachary Bray***

James and Mary Lassiter Professor of Law  
J. David Rosenberg College of Law  
University of Kentucky.  
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***Priscilla McCutcheon***

***Assistant Professor***

Geography

Appalachian Center

Environmental and Sustainability Studies

African American and Africana Studies

Commonwealth Institute for Black Studies

University of Kentucky

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