

CURRICULUM VITAE
Dr. Nikitah Okembe-RA Irnani

EDUCATION:

- 1995 Ph.D. Sociology, University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida
- 1992 M.A Sociology, University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida
- 1991 M.A Political Science, University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida
- 1989 B.S.F.S. International Politics, Georgetown University, Washington, DC

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY:

Professor and Chair, Department of Black Studies, University of Nebraska-Omaha August 2012 to date

Associate Professor of Sociology and Africana Studies, James Madison University August 2001 to August 2012

Assistant Professor of Sociology and Africana Studies, James Madison University May 1995 to August 2001

BOOKS AND MONOGRAPHS:

- 1996. Feagin, Joe., Vera, Hernan., and Imani, Nikitah. *The Agony of Education*. Routledge Press.
- 2004. Imani, Nikitah. *Mbongi: Towards Africentric Political Formations in the U.S.* Reapalife Press Harrisonburg, VA.
- 2004. Imani, Nikitah. *Kinzoni: Towards Afrikan Intra-communal Dispute Resolution in the U.S.* Reapalife Press Harrisonburg, VA.
- 2010 Imani, Nikitah. *Code Name: Deadly Occupation: Poet*. Reapalife Press Harrisonburg, VA
- 2011 Imani, Nikitah *Head Games: De-Colonizing the Psychotherapeutic Process* University Press of America Lanham, Maryland

ARTICLES:

- 1993. Imani, Nikitah. "Comments On A Sociological-Dramaturgical Approach to the Problem of Defining Slavery" in *Umoja Law Journal*, Vol. 1 Dec. Pp. 24-32.
- 1994. Feagin, Joe., and Imani, Nikitah. "Barriers to Black Entrepreneurship: An Exploratory Study of a Southern Metropolitan Area." *Social Problems* Vol. 41, No.4. Pp. 562-584.
- 1996. Imani, Nikitah. and Vera, Heman. "War at 33 1/3: A Pilot Study on the Sociological Effects of Hip-Hop (Rap) Music" Chapter 8 in Fabio Dasilva and David L. Brunnsma ed. *All Music: Essays on the Hermeneutics of Music*. Avebury Press. Pp. 168-190.
- 1996 Imani, Nikitah. "The Clarity and Confusion Offered by Personal Identity Studies." *The Journal of Black Psychology*. May 1996. Vol. 22. No.2. pp. 187-193.
- 1996. Imani, Nikitah. "Toward an Africentric Methodology for Qualitative Data Analysis Involving Afrikan Women." *The McKnight Journal*. Vol. 1. No.1. Feb. 1996. Pp. 22-36.
- 1996 Imani, Nikitah., and Padgett, David. "Hype and Higher Education" in *The Negro Educational Review* Vol. 47. No.1-2 November. Pp. 88-93.

1997. Imani, Nikitah. "Toward an Africentric Methodology for Qualitative Data Analysis Involving Afrikan Women: Part II: Application of the Model." *The McKnight Journal* Vol. 2. Nos. 1 and 2. Pp. 9-21.
1998. Imani, Nikitah. "Development of a Methodology for the Evaluation of "Socially-Induced Stress" among African-American Men: A Pilot Investigation." *Journal of African-American Men* Vol. 3. Issue 4. Pp. 83-91.
1999. Imani, Nikitah. "The European Vampire as a Metaphor for White Supremacy." *The Journal of Unconventional History* Volume 10 Number 3 Spring. Pp. 13-36.
- 1999 Padgett, David and Imani, Nikitah. "Qualitative and Quantitative of Land-use Managers' Attitudes Towards Environmental Justice." *the Journal of Environmental Management* Vol. 24, Number 4. Pp. 509-515.
2004. Imani, Nikitah. "Navigating Perceptions of ' Otherness' in the Classroom: One Experience." *Journal of Radical Pedagogy*, Summer 2004 Vol 6. Electronic.
- 2007 Imani, Nikitah. "Globalization? Globaloney! Smells Like Colonialism" in Social Issues in a Global Context Stephen Poulson (ed.). Pearson Publishing.
- 2007 Imani, Nikitah. "Sparring With Old Friends: Further Considerations on Blau and Moncada" in *Sociological Analysis* Volume One Autumn pp. 46-48.
2008. Imani, Nikitah. "Critical Impairments to Globalizing the Western Human Rights Discourse" in *Sociologists Without Borders* Volume 3-2. Pp. 270-284. Brill.
- 2009 Imani, Nikitah. "The War on Jihad: Eurocentrism and Its Thinly-Veiled Attack on Islamic Cultures and Societies" in Rethinking Global Terrorism edited by Nedzad Basic and Anwar Hussain Siddiqui. International Islamic University, Islamabad. Pp. 263-278.
- 2011 Imani, Nikitah. (2011). When Turkeys Do Social Theory: Black Swans or White Swans in "Blackface"? *West Africa Review*, 0(19).
- 2012 Imani, Nikitah (2012) "The Implications of Africa-Centered Conceptions of Time And Space for Quantitative Theorizing" in *The Journal of Pan-Afrikan Studies* Vol 5 No. 4.
- 2014 Imani, Nikitah (2014) "Introduction to the Special Issue - An Invitation to Debate: Envisioning an Africa-Centered Perspective, Engaging Sociological Endeavor" in *Critical Sociology* Vol.40 No. 2 Sage.

PENDING

- 2014 Imani, N (2012) chapter on Eugenics and the Prison System in Race, Ethnicity, And The Prison System edited by Scott Bowman. ABC CLIO.
- 2015 Imani, N (2012) Forthcoming Book, A Classical African Spiritual Approach to Mathematics Mellen Press.

REPORTS AND ESSAYS

1991. Feagin, Joe., and Imani, Nikitah. Final Report Black Contractors and Subcontractors in the Dade County Construction Industry: A Portrait of Racial Discrimination. Prepared for the Board of County Commissioners, Dade County, Florida.
1993. Feagin, Joe., Imani, Nikitah., and Vera, Hernan. Black Students at the University of Maryland (College Park): The Views of Black Parents in Maryland. Report to the University of Maryland-College Park's Benjamin Banneker Scholarship Program.
1993. Feagin, Joe., and Imani, Nikitah. Black in a White World: Black Students at the University of Maryland (College Park). Report to the University of Maryland-College Park's Benjamin Banneker Scholarship Program.
- 2005 Imani, Nikitah. "Self-Determination: The Essential Key to Afrikan Social Progress." *NAACP Harrisonburg*

- 2007 Imani, Nikitah "The Learning Platform" Sociologos sin fronteras Essay Competition on the Utopian-University Model.

REVIEWS

1999. Imani, Nikitah. "Review of S. Craig Watkins 'Representing: Hip-Hop Culture and the Production of Black Cinema.' " *Contemporary Sociology* Vol. 28. No.5 p. 577.
2000. Imani, Nikitah. "Sparring with McPhail's the Rhetoric of Racism: Theorizing the Limits of Postmodern Critiques of Standpoint Epistemology." *The Journal of African Philosophy* Vol.13 No.2.
2007. Imani, Nikitah. 'Review of Nancy Kleniewski Cities, Change, and Conflict: A Political Economy of Urban Life. *Teaching Sociology* Vol 35. No. 4 pp.380-381.

PAPERS PRESENTED AT PROFESSIONAL MEETINGS

- 1997 "Sparring with McPhail: The Rhetoric of Racism." Virginia Humanities Conference on Representations of the Other. Mary Washington College. Fredericksburg, VA. April.
1997. "Spirituality and the Afrikan-Arnerican Student." National Black Graduate Student Conference. Research Triangle Park, N.C. May.
1997. "The Scientific Family in the U.S.: Insight or Obstacle?" Phi Theta Kappa Virginia Regional Honors Institute. November.
1999. "Critical Dimensions of Organizational Sponsorship in Maintaining Corporatized Discrimination." Virginia Social Science Association. Radford, VA. March.
1999. "The Agony of Education." The Education and African-Americans Conference, at the University of Wisconsin at Milwaukee. October.
2000. "Bees Wit' Soul: A Critical Examination of the Entomological and Popular Discourses Involving Afrikanized Bees." Virginia Social Science Association. Richmond, VA. March
2002. Presented at Symposium "Black Reparations: Recompense or Retribution" Leyburn Library, Northern Auditorium Washington and Lee University. March.
2002. "Epistemology of the Other: Exile Without Leaving." JMU conference Living in Exile. October.
2003. "Akhenaton Moses." Association for the Study of Classical Afrikan Civilizations. Nashville, TN. March.
2003. "The Ankh Factor." Cheikh Anta Diop conference. Philadelphia, PA. October 10th.
2004. "Symbolic Social Invisibility: The First Step in the Psychosocial Genocide of Africans in the United States," African Heritage Association. Roanoke, VA. October.
2005. "Afrikan Student Leadership: The Metaphor of the Bomber." and a panel presentation on "Afrikan Male Leadership and the Osirian Mythological Dramaturgy of Classical Afrika". National African-American Leadership Conference in Holly Springs, Miss. January.
- 2006 "Surviving the Psycho-Social Genocide" and "Mis-education Versus Education" (and participated in two panel discussions on "The Black Family: Examining Gender Issues: What is Real? What is Not?"). National African-American Leadership conference in Holly Springs, MS. January.
- 2006 "Globalization as Euro-Liquid Neocolonialism" at the 7th Annual International Social theory Consortium Conference at the Hotel Roanoke and Conference Center. Roanoke, VA. May.
- 2006 Co-presenter for professional development seminar "In the Belly of the Beast: Careers in Higher Education Administration" at the Black Think Tank of the Brothers of the Academy at Morehouse College Atlanta, Ga. October.
- 2007 "Ma'atmatikos: Ancient Afrikan Spiritual Mathematics as a Method of Liberation or "The Only Question

You Can't Seem to Ask Your Math Teacher..Why?" National African-American Student Leadership Conference Holly Springs, MS. January 12.

- 2007 "Deaf Jam: Critical Impairments to Globalizing the Western Human Rights Discourse", "The New Frontier for Theorizing About Stratification and Social Justice," "Iraqi War Teach In" Presented at the annual meetings of the Southern Sociological Society meetings in Atlanta April 12th.
- 2008 "Eurocentrism and the Symbolic Genocide of Afrikan Cultures and Peoples: Classic and Contemporary Perspectives" Presented for Tennessee State University April 18th Harper's Restaurant in Nashville as part of Gateway to Heritage Earth Day celebration.
- 2008 "Nommo and Nomenclature: The Power of the Spoken Word" National African-American Student Leadership Conference Holly Springs, MS January 18th-19th.
- 2009 "Ancient Afrikan Spiritual Architecture" National African-American Student Leadership Conference Holly Springs, MS January 15th-16th.
- 2010 Delivered "Africentric Numerological Interpretation of Selected Biblical Metaphors" at the National African-American Student Leadership Conference in Holly Springs, Miss. January 15th.
- 2010 "Quantitative Theorizing: Limitations of Paradigmatically-Bound Philosophical Meta-Assumptions" and The Commodification of Victimization and Concomitant Glorification of Mediocrity" presented at the Southern Sociology Society meetings Atlanta, Georgia April.
- 2012 "The Implications of Africa-Centered Conceptions of Time and Space for Quantitative Theorizing" National Conference of Black Studies March 9th, 2012 Atlanta, GA.
- 2013 "The Implications of Amateur Domestic Genealogical Research for Africana Sociological Analysis" National Conference of Black Studies March 14th Indianapolis, Indiana.
- 2014 "An Invitation to Debate: Envisioning An Africa-Centered Perspective, Engaging Sociological Endeavor" 5th Africana Studies Annual Interdisciplinary Conference Harrisonburg, Va. October 18th.

INVITED LECTURES

- 1995. Presented on the topic of Affirmative Action at the McKnight Fellows Conference in Tampa, Florida. October.
- 1996 "Keeping the Fire Burning: Movement, Leadership, Evolution, and Change." Civic Media Center, Gainesville, FL. February.
- 1996 Keynote Speaker, Malcolm X Revolutionary Conference, University of Florida.. February.
- 1997. "Grounds for Revolutionary Coalition Building." Civic Media Center Gainesville. Florida. June.
- 1997 Keynote Speaker, Malcolm X Revolutionary Conference, University of Florida. February.
- 1999. Presented at the McKnight Doctoral Fellowship Conference. October.
- 2002 Participant and presenter in Washington and Lee Symposium on Black Reparations. March.
- 2004 Keynote Address" Building Bridges", at the Virginia Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages Statewide Conference. Charlottesville, VA. October 16th.
- 2004. "Resurrecting the Symbolic Invocative Mode as a Means of Pan-Afrikan Empowerment," Sankofa Crusade Raleigh, NC. October 2nd.
- 2004. Symposium, "Afrikan Identity: Being Self, Knowing Self," jointly sponsored by the National Panhellenic Council and Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, held at Virginia Tech, Blacksburg. Nov. 9.
- 2006 Keynote address "The Pan-African Imperative," at The 30th Annual Pan-African Conference at Mankato State University in Mankato, MN 2-24-06..
- 2007 "Peripheral Vision: A Case Against the Culture of Victimization and Political Correctness" JMU Honors Program Symposium. January 24th.

- 2007 Keynote address at the conference "One the Move: Movement and Change in Hip-Hop Culture" at University of Illinois-Springfield. April 27th, 2007.
- 2008 "How America Will Die: The 'Twin Towers' of Mediocrity and Victimology" JMU Intrafraternity and Pan-Hellenic Council Scholarship Committees' meeting. April 17th.
- 2008 Participating in the African-American Latino Summit Los Angeles, California. October 5th-7th.
- 2008 Delivered the Annual HGPS Samuel Shannon Distinguished Lecture at Tennessee State University November 12th "Sociological Questions, Geospatial Solutions"
- 2009 Delivered lecture "The Terminological Problem in Africana Studies" at the Africana Studies Annual Interdisciplinary Symposium, 2009 "AFRICA AT THE CROSSROADS: WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?" James Madison University, October 9th.
- 2010 Delivered Martin Luther King Jr. Lecture at Ursinus College Collegeville, PA January 17th "Can You Hear The Sound of the Drum?"
- 2011 Presented, in conjunction with Project Director Dr David Padgett of Tenn. State Univ. "Race, Place, and the MayTown Center Project January 2009-June 2010" March 3rd Vanderbilt and Fisk Universities March 4th Tennessee State University
- 2011 Participated in a panel discussing the role of Africana folk culture in hip-hop as part of the JMU Africana Studies Conference "FOLK CULTURE: MORPHING THE WORLD'S CULTURAL FACE" October 21st, 2011.
- 2014 Delivered lecture on Transformation in Black, African, and Africana Studies at Portland State University as part of the Nelson Mandela lecture series May 15th, 2014

CAMPUS ACTIVITIES

- 2012 Coordinated Maverick Diversity Council training activities conducting two workshops "Paradigm Shift" and "Coalition-Building" October 20th and 21st for the Office of Student Learning and Programs UNO MBSC

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES:

- 2004. Reviewer, NSF spatial dynamics panel of the Social and Human Dynamics grant program, Washington, D.C. June.

GRANTS:

- 1997. Grant, JMU Commission on Community Curriculum and Community Enhancement Grant Committee, to develop an Africentric Pedagogical Resource Manual. July.
- 1997. Co-Recipient, JMU General Education Summer Faculty Development Grant. July.
- 1998. Co-recipient, JMU General Education Summer Faculty Development Grant. July.
- 1999. Recipient, Center for Service-Learning Service Associates Grant. Fall.
- 2003. Grant to participate in Center for Spatially-Integrated Social Science. Ohio State University. July.
- 2004. Grant to participate in Center for Spatially-Integrated Social Science. Ohio State University. June/July.
- 2004. Co-Recipient, General Education grant to develop a General Education course for Africana Studies. Summer.
- 2005. Co-Recipient, General Education grant to develop a General Education course for Africana Studies. Summer.
- 2005. Co-Recipient, NSF-CSISS-SPACE grant to present on uses of spatial analysis for social scientists at the Association of Social Behavioral Scientists Meeting in Nashville, TN March.
- 2005-06. Selected, Madison Teaching Fellow for the JMU Center for Faculty Innovation.

2009 Received Grant to develop SYN-Thesis a College of Arts and Letters Journal for the Social Sciences JMU

COURSES TAUGHT

SOC 255 Comparative Sociology (developer) new course, old number
SOCI/ANTH 368 Modern American Culture (co-developer)
SOCI321 Politics in Society: Cultures of Resistance (developer) new course, old number
SOCI378/SOCI479 Introductory Seminar on African-Centered Critical Theory
SOCI 101 Sociology: A Paradigmatic Approach (developer) new course, old number
SOCI/ANTH 336 Intercultural Relations (developer) new course, old number
SOCI380 Critical Analysis Seminar (co-developer) undergraduate major required course
SOCI102 Social Problems (co-developer)
SOCI379 African Intellectual Heritage (developer)
SOCI495H/HON 300X Africentric Honors Seminar (developer)
SOCI495 Hip-Hop and Social Theory (developer)
GSOC 210C Global Social Issues (co-developer) general education course
SOCI 480 Senior Seminar (co-developer) undergraduate major required course
SOCI 495 African-American Feminist Thought (co-developer)
SOCI 495 African-American Sociology (developer)
SOCI495/HON 300V Education and the Pluraliversity (developer)
SOCI 265 Sociology of the Community (co-developer)
SOCI 395 Simulation and Social Theory (developer)
SOCI 354 Social and Cultural Stratification (developer)
SOCI 200X/200 Narratives of Sociological Thought (co-developer) undergraduate major required course
SOCI 395 Africentric Sociopsychology (developer)
GAFST 200 Introduction to Africana Studies (co-developer)
SOCI 316 Space, Time, and the Human Social Environment (developer)
GSOCI 210 Social Issues in a Global Context general education course
BLST 1000 Introduction to Black Studies
BLST 2100 Black American Culture
BLST 4700 African Philosophy (Grad piggyback)
BLST 3120/PSC 3120 Black Experience in American Politics
BLST 3980 Fight The Power (Grad piggyback)

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Member, Alpha Epsilon Lambda Honorary Society

Member, Alpha Kappa Delta National Sociology Honorary

Member, Beta Eta Sigma Black Honorary Society

Member, The International Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi

National Council of Black Studies

AWARDS:

1996-97 JMU NAACP Most Outstanding Administrator Award

1997-98 JMU NAACP Most Outstanding Faculty Member Award

1998-99 JMU NAACP Most Outstanding Faculty/Staff Member Award

1999 Shenandoah Distinguished Male Collegiate Educator Award,
National Society of Collegiate Scholars Honorary Membership Award

BOARDS:

Editorial Board, Journal of Radical Pedagogy

African Editor, Journal of Critical Sociology

REFERENCES

Dr. David A. Padgett
Director, TSU GIS Laboratory
Associate Professor of Geography
Department of History, Geography, and Political Science
Tennessee State University
Nashville, TN 37209
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