

MELYNDA JANE PRICE

University Research Professor
W. L. Matthews, Jr. Professor of Law
African American and Africana Studies Affiliated Faculty
University of Kentucky
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CURRENT ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

2006-present

University Research Professor and William L. Matthews, Jr. Professor of Law

College of Law, University of Kentucky

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

Research topics: Race, Gender, Citizenship, Punishment and the Role of Law in the Politics of Race and Ethnicity

Select Examples of Leadership and Service: 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), Member of Executive Committee (2014-2015), 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

- Student, Capital Punishment Clinic (3 semesters)
- 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

- Dean's List
- Presidential Scholarship

RECENT ACADEMIC AWARDS

2018

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

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

2017

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

“Expanding It’s 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)

“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 Religion and Public Life Series, submitted for publication)

“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 Mother Weep: Race, Motherhood and Antiviolence Organizing (book project)

“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)

“Social Network and Contextual Effects: Felony Disenfranchisement and African American Voter Turnout in 2016” (with Emily Beaulieu and Bridgett King)

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-present Editorial Board, University Presses of Kentucky

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

MOST RECENT CONFERENCES AND PRESENTATIONS

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

2012-2016

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

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

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–present

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**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, 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

2006–2009

Assistant Professor

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

2001–2002 Student (Spring 2001) and Advanced Student (Fall 2001–Spring 2002), Capital Punishment Clinic, University of Texas School of Law, Austin

2001 (Fall) Law Clerk, Political Asylum Project of Austin

2001 (Summer) Law Clerk, Federal Public Defender, Southern District of Texas, Houston

2000–2001 Law Clerk, Texas Defender Service, Austin

HONORS

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

2002 University of Texas Co-op Award for Public Interest Law

2000–2002 Member of editorial board, Texas International Law Journal

1991–1995 Prairie View A&M University Dean’s List

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
- 1999, 2000 Participant, AIDS Walk Austin
- 1998, 1999 Volunteer, University of Michigan Hospital Women’s Health Resource Center
- 1998, 1999 Volunteer, Prostate Cancer Awareness Screening, Coalition of 100 Black Men, Houston, Texas
- 1992–1995 Volunteer firefighter, Prairie View Volunteer Firefighters Association