

CASARAE L. GIBSON

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 Syracuse University
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EDUCATION

Ph.D. English, Purdue University,

Field: American Literature 1899-Present

Sub-Field: African American Literature

Dissertation: “There’s a Riot Going On! Race and Rebellion in Contemporary African American Literature.”

Abstract: The dissertation examines Black American writers and filmmakers framings of civil unrest and how it is read in later twentieth-century works that redress the unequal social wrongs in contemporary historical incidents that represent the continuing plight of African Americans in post-Civil Rights literature.

Committee Members: Dr. Venetria K. Patton, Dr. Bill V. Mullen, Dr. Marlo David, and Dr. Aparajita Sagar

M.A. English, Purdue University, December 2009

Concentration: Literature

Thesis: Race and Trauma as Urban Narrative in “Riot or Revolt,” *Philadelphia Fire* and *Twilight Los Angeles, 1992*.

B.A. English, Johnson C. Smith University, May 2007

Major: English

Minor: Communication Arts

SCHOLARSHIP AND AWARDS

- 2015-Purdue Black Cultural Center Robert G. McCall Service Award
- 2014-Purdue University Interdisciplinary Graduate Programs Most Outstanding Award
- 2014-Purdue University Cheryl Oreovicz Dissertation Scholarship
- 2012-Alpha Kappa Alpha Educational Advancement Foundation Fund Merit Award
- 2012-National Council of Black Studies Essay Award Winner
- 2011-SHEAR National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Seminar and Grant
- 2011-Introductory Composition at Purdue Instructor Reflection Award
- 2011-2007 Purdue Black Cultural Center Honors Recipient
- 2007-Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. Janet J. Ballard Award
- 2006-Kellogg Collegiate Women of Color Institute, Leadership, and Civic Engagement
- 2006-Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. Undergraduate Scholars Award

- 2006-Schomburg-Mellon Summer Humanities Institute Fellow
- 2005-Ronald E. McNair Baccalaureate Program

RESEARCH

1. Publications

a. Essay:

Gibson, Casarae and Venetria K. Patton, Ph.D. "Teaching Anna Deavere Smith's *Twilight* through a Critical Race Theory Lens." *The National Journal of Urban Education and Practice* 6.1 (2012): 69-83. Print.

Note: The article was not written collaboratively. Dr. Patton, as dissertation advisor, is listed as an additional author because of the journal's policy.

b. Encyclopedia Entries:

"John Edgar Wideman," "Henry Dumas," "Dorothy Height," "Russell Simmons," "Anna Deavere Smith," and "Aaliyah" for *Great Lives from History: African Americans*, edited by Carl L. Bankston III for Salem Press, 2011.

2. National Conferences

"(De)coding the Intellectualism of Tupac Amaru Shakur in a Demising Pop Culture." *National Council of Black Studies*, Indianapolis, Indiana, March 13-16, 2013.

"We Still Conscious: Hip Hop Activism in the 21st Century." *National Council of Black Studies*, Atlanta, Georgia, March 7-10, 2012. Winner of the *National Council of Black Studies* Essay Contest

"Liberation is Power in *Lionheart Gal: Life Stories of Jamaican Women* by Sistren." *National Council of Black Studies*, Cincinnati, Ohio, March 16-19, 2011.

"Trauma and Recovery as Urban Narrative in John Edgar Wideman's *Philadelphia Fire*." *College Language Association*, Brooklyn, New York, April 7-10, 2010.

"Should We Riot or Revolt? A Contextual Examination of Henry Dumas' *Riot or Revolt?*" *College Language Association*, Cambridge, Maryland, March 25-29, 2009.

"Re-shaping Afro-American Identity Through Ancestral Identity in Henry Dumas's *Ark of Bones*." *College Language Association*, Charleston, South Carolina, April 10-12, 2008.

3. Local Presentations

"The Message: A Conversation on Ferguson and its Implications." African American Studies and Research Center, Purdue University, West Lafayette, Indiana, September 25, 2014.

Talk: "Black Female Heroines in Action Films." Purdue University Center for Diversity and Inclusion: Open Lecture Series, Purdue University, West Lafayette, Indiana November 12, 2012.

"Difficult Dialogues on Race and Popular Culture." Purdue University Black Cultural Center and American Studies, Purdue University, West Lafayette, Indiana, March 13, 2012.

Speaker: "*Sula* by Toni Morrison: A Book Reading." Butler Center for Leadership Excellence and the Purdue University Black Culture Center, Purdue University, West Lafayette, Indiana, January 27, 2012.

“Loss and Testimony as Urban Narrative in John Edgar Wideman’s *Philadelphia Fire*.” *African American Studies and Research Center Symposium*, Purdue University, West Lafayette, Indiana, November 22-26, 2010, Respondent: Dr. Trudier Harris.

TEACHING EMPLOYMENT

Teaching Assistant, Purdue University African American Studies and Research Center Fall 2010-2011

- 271 Introduction to African American Studies

Instructor, Purdue University African American Studies and Research Center Fall 2011-Present

- 277 African American Popular Culture
- 371 The African American Athlete
- 373 Pan Africanism and Black Power Ideology (Ghana Study Abroad Course)

Instructor, Purdue University’s Introductory Rhetoric and Composition Fall 2007-2010

- 106 Writing Your Way Into Purdue University
- 106 Composing Through Literature
- 106 Writing about Diversity and Inclusion

Instructor, Ivy Tech Community College of Lafayette, Indiana Fall 2010-Summer 2011

- 111 Rhetoric and Composition
- 111 Rhetoric and Composition (Online Course)

BLACK CULTURAL CENTER EMPLOYMENT

Scholar-in-Residence (SIR) of Black Thought Collective (BTC), Purdue University Black Cultural Center, West Lafayette, Indiana Fall 2010-Spring 2013

- Advised an academic think tank group for undergraduate and graduate students pursuing scholarly interests on topics in Africana and African American Studies.
- Collaborated with Purdue University Black Cultural Center ensemble groups to write and showcase the history of their Cultural Arts Series performances through poster board displays and talk back sessions.
- Coordinated the annual Black Thought Collective symposium dedicated to student scholarship addressing concerns and issues in Africana Studies.

Library Aide, Purdue University Black Cultural Center, West Lafayette, Indiana Summer 2011-Present

- Program Coordinator, Contemporary African American Book Reading Series
- Archivist of the Sara Rounds Price Civil Rights Collection

- Cataloging
- Data Entry

Workshop Presenter for Purdue Athlete's Life Success Program (PALS), Purdue University Black Cultural Center, West Lafayette, Indiana Summer 2011-Summer 2013

- Presenter for an interactive music appreciation and African American history workshop class for students ages 8-11.
- Created an interactive 2012 Summer Olympics Games trivia on African American athletes for students ages 8-11.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

National Council of Black Studies
 Association for Black Culture Centers
 College Language Association
 Modern Language Association

REFERENCES

Dr. Venetria K. Patton
 Professor of English and Director of African American Studies and Research Center at Purdue University
 Email: vpatton@purdue.edu
 Phone: (765) 494-2151

Dr. Bill V. Mullen
 Professor of English and American Studies at Purdue University
 Email: bvmullen@purdue.edu
 Phone: (765) 494-3735

Dr. Marlo D. David
 Assistant Professor of English and Women Studies at Purdue University
 Email: mdavid@purdue.edu

Dr. Aparajita Sagar
 Associate Professor of English and Post-Colonial Studies at Purdue University
 Email: asagar@purdue.edu
 Phone: (765) 494-3780