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Growth and Ethical Engagement via Compassionate Inquiry of Ourselves, Others, and Our Cultural Systems

EDUCATION

MA Folklore

University of NC Chapel Hill, 2003

BA English

Southern Illinois University, 1994
cum laude; 4.0 in all major coursework

BA French

Southern Illinois University, 1994
cum laude; 4.0 in all major coursework

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Consultant 2000-present

Help clients engage in compassionate self-analysis for greater impact, satisfaction, and alignment with their values in the world. Services include personal coaching and counseling, custom trainings on equity and privilege, lectures and workshops. Clients include individuals, documentary projects, private businesses, churches, and schools.

“Your questions are helping me hone in . . . I'm excited to be thinking of how to shape an a thoughtful, authentic, response and to consider how my work can be used to impact community issues.” - Rebecca Williams, coaching client

Projects of note include:

- Investigating cultural competency, power, and privilege with religious congregations.

- Custom diversity training, conflict resolution, and mediation for private businesses, churches, and schools. Topics have included: “Understanding Gender and Avoiding Stereotypes” and “Welcoming and Affirming Children.”
- Creating Connections Summer Reconciliation Program, two-week long original summer youth camp using arts and oral history interviewing for reconciliation across cultural differences. Chapel Hill, NC.

Instructor, 2002-present

Center for Documentary Studies, Duke University (Certificate Program)

Collaborate with outreach learning staff to develop, plan, and report on courses.

Design curriculum and online materials, and instruct students. Asked by director to develop new intensive summer seminar. Original courses include: Introduction to Documentary Studies (required for certificate); Getting In: Ethical Community Engagement; The Inner Journey of Documentary Work; Documenting the Family; What Actually Works to Effect Social Change; Oral History.

“I haven’t felt that level of passion for anything in a long time. I have learned so much.” – Sandra Stinnet

Executive Director, 2011-2016

North Carolina Folklife Institute

Directed non-profit that preserves and promotes traditional arts and cultures, and connects state folklore with issues of public concern including education, economic development, and community health.

- Led strategic planning initiative resulting in mission focus on expert research and transformational communication that demonstrates the importance of lived and historic traditions and community culture to our state’s health.
- Wrote \$400,000 in successful grants from funders including the National Endowment for the Arts and the Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation.
- Developed ongoing relationships with multiple community partners in the state, especially in Halifax and Warren counties, and in Robeson County.
- Designed successful e-newsletter with open and click rates more than twice the nonprofit industry average.

Projects of note include

- North Carolina Contexts of Protest, a photography exhibit placing Greensboro Civil Rights events in a larger state context including 1930s textile strikes and 1980s Robeson County social justice marches (September 2016).

- Community Documentation Trainings, helping local communities preserve and tell their own stories in their own words, for Lumbee Indian Tribe and Robeson County, Coharie Indian Tribe, and Growing Change Youth Initiative (2014-2016).

Program Facilitator, 2004-2006

DESTINY Traveling Science Learning Program, UNC.

Supported secondary school teacher training program designed to increase minority and female participation in the sciences through administration, communications, curriculum development, grant writing, inventory and purchasing, research and evaluations support, record-keeping, and student worker supervision. Promoted from Program Assistant within six months of initial hire.

Technical Trainer, 2000-2002

ATN Computer Training Center, UNC

Taught more than 20 different classes covering nine types of software and topics such as Web authoring. Developed documentation and curriculum for new and revised courses. Specialized in teaching effectively to students with limited computer experience. Consulted with individuals and departments to provide specialized instruction.

SELECTED EXPERIENCE IN PARTICULAR TOPICS

RACE

Education: South in Black and White, Duke, 2012; Cross-Cultural Counseling, UNC, 1999.

Dismantling Racism two-day training, 2001. National Coalition Building Institute Prejudice Reduction and Controversial Issues certification, 2001.

Founding member: The Color White (Watts St. Baptist Church) 2015; White People's Caucus (dRworks) 2010; Buzzkill White Caucus 2004.

Workshops/Trainings/Presentations:

Race and Privilege, 3-part series, Watts Street Baptist Church, 2011.

Fighting Racism with Folkloristics, North Carolina Folklore Society, 2009.

The Sin of Racism: A Lenten Journey, Church of the Advocate, 2007.

Everyday Acts of Reconciliation. Waging Reconciliation Retreat Conference, 2003.

Youth Programs: A How-To Session. At Christianity-Islam conference, 2001.

Seeking the Hidden Neighbor: Using Personal Stories to Fulfill the Baptismal Covenant, 2001.

SPIRITUAL PERSPECTIVES

Education: Spirituality (Michael Battle), Duke, 2001.

Soul Work: Tending Our Spiritual Selves Retreat (Dan Bagby), 2015.

Compassionate Curiosity: Living into an Identity as Welcoming and Affirming (Cody Sanders), 2014.

Soul Repair Conference/Moral Injury Workshop (Rita Nakashima Brock), 2014.

January Adventure: Conference in Emerging Christianity:

2016 (Robin Meyers, Lori Walke), 2015 (Andy Root, Nadia Bolz Weber),

2014 (Marcus Borg, Gary Dorrien),

2013 (Walter Brueggemann, Gary Dorrien), 2012 (Brian McLaren, Fr. Richard

Rohr), 2011 (Barbara Brown Taylor, Brian McLaren).

Planning Group, Alliance of Baptists 2003 Convocation.

LEADERSHIP

Education: Natural Community Leadership Program: Leadership, Community Design and Cultural Repair, 2016.

Certificate in Leadership Development, UNC-Chapel Hill, 2000.

SELF & SYSTEM INQUIRY

Education: Systems Theory, NC State University, 2002.

Enneagram Intensive, 2011. Holding Contradictions: The Personal Work of Social

Justice, 2009. Writing to Heal certification, 2001. Artist Retreat and Critical

Dialogue (Taller Portobelo Norte Art Colony, Portobelo, Panama), 2000.

Workshops/Trainings/Presentations:

Community Engagement, Resourceful Communities Regional Leadership Workshop, 2015.

Place-Rooted vs. Place-Themed Tourism: What Makes the Difference? Governor's Conference on Tourism, 2015.

Heritage Health: A Systems Approach (Keynote), Resourceful Communities Healthy Eating Active Living Conference, 2014.

Story-Based Program Evaluation. Healthy Native North Carolinians Capacity Building Workshop, 2014.

The Trauma of Belonging: When Community Traditions Hurt Individuals, American Folklore Society, 2013.

Embracing Conflict Communication (Keynote), UNC Occupational Science Professional Development Conference, 2005.

AWARDS, RECOGNITION, PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

Outstanding Employee of the Year, ATN Computer Training Center, 2002.

Trainer of the Year, ATN Computer Training Center, 2001.

Recipient, Robert E. Bryan Public Service Fellowship, Carolina Center for Public Service, 2001.

First Place, C. S. Herschel Curriculum Development Competition, UNC Writing Program, 1999.

North Carolina Folklore Society Board Secretary, 2010-present.

Member, Orange County Arts Commission, 2013-present.

Advisory Board, Looking at Appalachia Documentary Project, 2014-present.

Advisory Board, Student Action with Farmworkers Documentary Program, 2011-2013.

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

Introduction to Celebrations. *Tarheel Junior Historian*. Fall, 2016 (guest editor).

100 Years of the North Carolina Folklore Society. *North Carolina Folklore Journal*. 60 1&2, Fall-Summer 2013.

North Carolina at Work. *North Carolina Folklore Journal*. 59.1 Spring-Summer 2012.

Kirsten Mullen: Folklorist. *North Carolina Folklore Journal*. 56.2 Fall-Winter 2009.

Novel Presence. In *Daily Devotions for Writers*, ed. Patricia Lorenz. Infinity Publishing, 2008