

DR. HEATHER ANN THOMPSON

Associate Professor of History

Department of African American Studies

Department of History

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PERSONAL:

- Date of birth: August 17, 1963
- Birthplace: Lawrence, Kansas

EDUCATION:

- Princeton University. American History, Ph.D., 1995
- The University of Michigan. History, M.A. (With Distinction), 1987
- The University of Michigan. History, B.A. (Highest Honors), 1987

PUBLICATIONS:

Books:

- Thompson, Blood in the Water: The Attica Uprising of 1971 and its Legacy (Pantheon Books, to press 2012)
- Thompson, ed. Speaking Out With Many Voices: Documenting American Activism and Protest in the 1960s and 1970s, (July, 2009)
- Thompson, Whose Detroit: Politics, Labor and Race in a Modern American City (Cornell University Press, 2001)

Articles in Refereed Journals:

- “Criminalizing the Kids: The Overlooked Reason for Failing Schools” Dissent, (Fall, 2011)
- “Rethinking Working Class Struggle through the Lens of the Carceral State: Toward a Labor History of Inmates and Guards.” Labor: Studies in the Working Class History of the Americas (Fall, 2011)
- “Downsizing the Carceral State: The Policy Implications of Prison Guard Unions.” (Invited article for special issue of Criminology and Public Policy edited by Marie Gottschalk--August, 2011).
- “Why Mass Incarceration Matters: Rethinking Crisis, Decline and Transformation in Postwar American History,” Journal of American History. (December, 2010)
- “Making a Second Urban History.” Essay collection commemorating the publication of Arnold Hirsch's, Making a Second Ghetto in the Journal of Urban History (May, 2003)

- "Another War at Home: Reexamining Working Class Politics in the 1960s," MidAmerica. (September 2000)
- "Rethinking the Politics of White Flight in the Postwar City: Detroit, 1945-1980," The Journal of Urban History. (January, 1999)

Chapters in Books:

- "America's Second Prison Crisis: Locating the Origins of Today's Race to Incarcerate, and the Key to its End, in the Long 20th Century." In The Problem of Punishment (forthcoming University of Virginia Press)
- "Blinded by a "Barbaric" South: Prison Horrors, Inmate Abuse and the Ironic History of Penal Reform in the Postwar United States" in Lassiter and Crespiño, ed. The End of Southern History? (Oxford University Press, 2009)
- "All Across the Nation: Black Power Militancy in America's Plants, Prisons, and Southern Piedmont, 1965-1975" in Kenneth Kusmer and Joe Trotter, eds, African American Urban History and Race Relations after World War Two (University of Chicago Press, 2009)
- Author, book chapter. "The Midwestern Freedom Struggle and the Remaking of the Urban America: Lessons from Postwar Detroit" in Rusty Monhollen, ed., The Black Freedom Struggle in the Midwest (Palgrave, to readers)
- "Mayor Coleman A. Young: Race and the Reshaping of Postwar Detroit," in Roger Biles, ed. American Urban History, (Scholarly Resources Books, June 2002)
- "Rethinking the Collapse of Liberalism: The Rise of Mayor Coleman Young and the Politics of Race in Postwar Detroit," chapter in David R. Colburn, and Jeffery Adler, eds., African American Mayors, (The University of Illinois Press, April 2001)
- "Urban Uprisings: Riots or Rebellions," chapter in David Farber and Beth Bailey, eds. The Columbia Guide to America in the 1960s. (June 2001)
- "New Autoworkers, Dissent and The UAW: Detroit and Lordstown," chapter in Robert Asher and Ronald Edsforth, eds., Autowork, (New York: SUNY Press, 1995)

Guest Edited Journal Issues:

- Special Issue on Urban Spaces and the Carceral State. Journal of Urban History (in progress)

Newspaper Articles:

- "The Lingering Injustice of Attica." Oped. The New York Times. September 9, 2011

Review Essays:

- "Telling it Like it Really Was: Women's Movement Activism and Movement Making in Postwar America." Review essay of Kimberly Springer, Living for the Revolution: Black Feminist Organizations, 1968-1980 and Christina Greene, Women and the Black Freedom Movement in Durham, North Carolina Warriors in Reviews in American History. (March, 2006)
- "Rescuing the Right." Review of Lisa McGirr, Suburban Warriors in Reviews in American History (June 2002)

- "Searching for Synthesis: Urban Rioting in Postwar America." Review Essay. *The Journal of Urban History*. (March 2000)

Book Reviews:

- Review of Douglas Blackmon, Slavery by Another Name (Doubleday, 2009). Against the Current (Fall, 2011)
- Review of Glenda Gilmore, Defying Dixie (Norton, 2007) in Labor: Studies in Working Class and Labor History (Fall, 2009)
- Review of David Freund, Colored Property (University of Chicago Press, 2007) in Journal of Southern History (Spring, 2009)
- Review of Henry Pratt, Churches and Urban Government in Detroit and New York, 1895-1999 (Wayne State University Press, 2004), in American Historical Review (March, 2006)
- Review of Suzanne Smith, Dancing in the Streets: The Cultural Politics of Detroit, in Labor History (Spring 2001)
- Review of Frederick Siegel, The Future Once Happened Here, in Left History (Spring 2001)
- Review of Timothy Minchin, Hiring the Black Worker, in Social History (January 2001)
- Review of Mary Stolberg, Bridging the River of Hatred: The Pioneering Efforts of Detroit Police Commissioner George Edwards, in The Michigan Historical Review (September 1999)
- Review of Thomas Sugrue, The Origins of Urban Crisis: Race and Inequality in Postwar Detroit, in Against the Current, (January/February, 1998)
- Review of Leon Fink and Brian Greenberg, Upheaval in the Quiet Zone, in Pennsylvania History, (January, 1991)

Series Edited:

- *Justice, Power, and Politics*. Series coeditor with Rhonda Y. Williams (Case Western Reserve). University of North Carolina Press. Acquisitions Editor, David Perry. Spring 2010
- *American Social Movements of the Twentieth Century*. Series Editor. Routledge. Acquisitions Editor, Kim Guinta. Fall 2008-present. (Books already secured for this series include: Daryl Maeda, Rethinking Asian-Pacific American Activism in Modern America, Marc Stein, Rethinking the Gay and Lesbian Civil Rights Movement, Rhonda Y. Williams, Rethinking the Black Power Movement, Marc Rodriguez, Rethinking Chicano Activism in the United States after WW II, Paul Longmore, Rethinking the Disability Rights Movement, Permillá Nadasen, Rethinking the Welfare Rights Movement), Simon Hall, Rethinking the Anti-War Movement, Annelise Orleck, Rethinking the Women's Rights Movement; Elizabeth Faue, Rethinking the American Labor Movement; Ellen Spear, Rethinking the Environmental Movement.

Works in Progress:

- "Criminalizing the Kids: Rethinking Poor Performance in America's Public Education System" (Invited article for special book volume of essays for Dissent, edited by Michael Katz and Mike Rose).

- “Black Activism Behind Bars: Toward a Rewriting of the American Civil Rights Movement.” (Under consideration for the Journal of African American History)
- “From Attica to Kent State to Wounded Knee: Rethinking the Rise of the Right in the Wake of the Tumultuous Sixties,” (Article in progress for the journal The Sixties)

Documentary Films:

- Historical Consultant and Interviewee for forthcoming documentary on the Attica Prison Uprising of 1971 done by award-winning filmmaker Chris Christopher. Tentatively titled, “Attica is all of Us” (in progress)
- Historical Advisor for forthcoming documentary on Algiers Hijacking of 1972 by Maia Weschsler.
- Consultant and Interviewee in National Geographic documentary on the Attica Prison Uprising of 1971. “The Final Report: Attica Prison Riot.” 2006

AWARDS AND HONORS:

- Best Article in Urban History 2011 Award for “Why Mass Incarceration Matters: Rethinking Crisis, Decline, and Transformation in Postwar American History,” *Journal of American History* (December, 2010). Awarded by Urban History Association.
- The Soros Justice Fellowship. The Open Society Institute. 2006-2007
- The Franklin Research Grant, The American Philosophical Association. 2005
- The Hackman Research Residency Grant, The New York State Archives. 2004
- Littleton-Griswold Research Grant, American Historical Association. 2004
- The Rockefeller Foundation, the Rockefeller Archive Center Research Grant. 2004
- The National Endowment for the Humanities, Research Fellowship. 2000-2001
- The University of North Carolina at Charlotte:
 - National Endowment for the Humanities, Focus Grant: “African American Identity.” 2004
 - Senior Faculty Research Grant, 2003-2004, 2006-2007
 - "Teaching American History" Grant U.S. Department of Education. Partnership between Charlotte Mecklenburg Schools and University of North Carolina at Charlotte, 2002-2005
 - CID Grant. Faculty Stipend Award for: The Digital Sound Archive Initiative, 2001
 - Junior Faculty Summer Research Grant, 2000
 - Junior Faculty Summer Research Grant, 1999
 - NEH Latin American Studies Initiative Course Development Grant, 1998-99
 - Junior Faculty Summer Research Grant, 1998
 - Faculty Research Support Grant, 1998
- Princeton University:
 - The Rollins Prize, 1990, 1991
 - The Shelby Collum Davis Merit Prize, 1987, 1988, 1989
 - Princeton University Fellowship Award, 1987-1992

EMPLOYMENT:

- Temple University
 - Associate Professor of History in the Department of African American Studies and the Department of History. August 2009-present
 - Appointed Associate Director, Center for the Humanities (CHAT). August 2010-present
- The University of North Carolina at Charlotte
 - Associate Professor. Department of History. August 2002-July 2009
 - Affiliated faculty Department of Africana Studies, 2004-July 2009
 - Appointed to faculty in Public Policy Ph.D. program, 2004-July 2009
 - Visiting Associate Professor at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor (Spring 2009)
- The University of North Carolina at Charlotte
 - Assistant Professor. Department of History. August 1997-August 2002
- The University of Michigan
 - Visiting Assistant Professor. Joint Appointment, the Department of History and Residential College. Fall 1995- Summer 1997

INVITED TALKS:

- Guest Speaker, “Profiting Off of Prison Labor...Redux...” Symposium: “Convict Labour – a Global Regime, 1500-2010.” International Institute of Social History/International Institute voor Sociale Geschiedenis (IISG). Amsterdam. June 13-14, 2012.
- Guest Speaker, “Ending Today’s Carceral Crisis: Lessons from History.” *Confronting The Carceral State: Activists, Scholars and the Exonerated Speak: A Symposium*. Black Studies Program of the City College. New York City. February 14, 2012.
- Guest Speaker, “From the White House to the State House to the Row House: Recasting the American Nation through the Politics of Punishment.” University of Sussex. Brighton, UK. February 10, 2012.
- Guest Speaker, “Rethinking the American South and its Historical Legacy in the Age of Mass Incarceration” Queens University, Belfast, Ireland. February 8, 2012
- Guest Speaker, ““Locked Up and Shut Out: Black Women and America's (not so) Hidden Carceral Crisis” Queens University, Belfast, Ireland. February 6, 2012
- Guest Speaker, “Debating Mass Incarceration and the “New Jim Crow.” Symposium. *From Black Modern to Post Blackness: A Retrospective Look at Identity*. Rutgers Center for Historical Analysis. November 9-11, 2011.
- Guest Speaker, “Lock Up America: Rethinking our Nation’s Past and Present in the Age of Mass Incarceration” University of Wisconsin. Green Bay. Thursday, September 22, 2011.
- Guest Speaker, “Attica: Why it Matters.” Conference. *40 Years after the Attica Uprising: Looking Back, Moving Forward*. University at Buffalo Law School, The Baldy Center for Law & Social Policy Monday, September 12 & Tuesday 13, 2011
- Guest Speaker, “The Imprisonment of a Race.” One-day Conference. Princeton University. March 25, 2011.

- Guest Speaker, “Race, Injustice, and the Challenge of Mass Incarceration for America’s Inner Cities.” Social Justice, Race and Profiling: An Intergenerational Think Tank. Social Justice Institute. Case Western Reserve University. November 19-20, 2010.
- Keynote Speaker. “Redemption Redux? Southern Politics, Economy, and Society in the Age of Mass Incarceration.” 2010 Lecture Southern Association for Women Historians. The Southern Historical Association Annual Meeting. Charlotte, NC. November 4-7, 2010
- Guest Speaker. “Commodifying Punishment in the American South: The Industry and Labor Consequences of making Crime Pay, 1970-Present.” Joint Luncheon of the Southern Industrialization Project (SIP) and the Southern Labor Studies Association (SLSA). Southern Historical Association Annual Meeting. Louisville, Kentucky. November, 2009.
- Guest Speaker. “America's Second Prison Crisis: Locating the Origins of Today's Race to Incarcerate, and the Key to its End, in the Long 20th Century.” The University of Virginia’s Carter G. Woodson Institute symposium, *The Problem of Punishment: Race, Inequality, and Justice*. April 16-17, 2009
- Guest Speaker. “Rewriting the American Civil Rights Movement: Black Activism Behind Bars and its Legacy.” Conference. *The Long Civil Rights Movement and the Future of Scholarship*.” Sponsored by the Southern Oral History Project. University of North Carolina Chapel Hill. April 2-3, 2009.
- Guest Speaker. “The Attica Uprising of 1971 and the Creation of the Carceral State: Toward a Rethinking of the Fall of the Labor Movement and the Rise of the Right.” Center for the Study of Work, Labor, and Democracy. University of California, Santa Barbara. February 6, 2009.
- Opening Plenary Participant. Cosponsored by the Center for Contemporary Black History at Columbia University: “Storm Warnings: Rethinking 1968, “The Year that Shook the World””. Fellow participants: Manning Marable, Peniel Joseph, Tom Sugrue, Michael Kazin, Jeremy Suri. Organization of American Historians Annual Meeting. March, 2008.
- Guest Speaker. "From Romanticizing and Remembering to Researching and Reassessing: Rethinking the Attica Uprising of 1971 and the Legacies of Black Power." 2nd Annual Conference, “New Perspectives in African American History and Culture.” UNC-Chapel Hill. April 12, 2008
- Guest Speaker. "Spinning Rebellion: The Attica Prison Uprising, the Media, and the (Mis)Shaping of Working-Class Politics in Post-1970s United States." Youngstown State University Center for Working-Class Studies 13th Annual Lecture Series 2007-2008. February 26, 2008.
- Guest Speaker. The “Malcolm Lester Lecture” at Davidson University. September 26, 2007
- Guest Speaker. "The Attica Prison Uprising of 1971 and its Legacy: Rescuing Prisoner Rights and Rethinking the Nation’s Prison Crisis.” University of California, Berkeley. Boalt School of Law. September 13, 2007
- Guest Speaker, “Why History Matters: the Attica Prison Uprising of 1971, Prisoner Rights, and Justice Policy Today.” The Open Society Institute, Soros Justice Fellows Annual Meeting. New Orleans. June 12, 2007
- Guest Speaker, “The Perilous Path from the Past to the Present: Rethinking the Current State of Justice Policy in America.” Sanford Institute for Public Policy. Duke University. April 25, 2007.
- Guest Speaker, “Attica: The Civil Rights Movement Behind Bars and its Legacy.” University of North Carolina at Greensboro. March 1, 2007

- Guest Speaker, "The Attica Uprising of 1971: From Civil Rights Dreams to Prison Policy Nightmares. Wake Forest University. February 28, 2007.
- Guest Speaker, "Attica: The Civil Rights Movement Behind Bars." Rutgers University. October 26, 2006
- Guest Speaker, "No Truth, No Justice: The Attica Prison Uprising of 1971 and the Politics of the Ironic in Postwar America." Princeton University. Modern America Workshop. October 25, 2006
- Guest Speaker, "The Attica Uprising of 1971: Rescuing the Past and Reclaiming the Future." The University of Pennsylvania Law School. October 16, 2006.
- Guest Speaker, "Attica! Attica! Attica!: Rebellion, Reaction, and the Legacy of Truths Untold" The University of Michigan. September 21, 2006.
- Guest Panelist. "Getting at Black Power History Sideways and Upside down: New Approaches to, and Understandings of, the Movement." Metropolitan History Workshop. The University of Michigan. September 22, 2006.
- Guest Speaker. "Rethinking Prison Conditions and Prisoner Abuse in Modern America: Toward a Labor History of Inmates and Guards." Annual Luncheon of the Labor and Working Class History Association. The Organization of American Historians Annual Meeting. Washington, D.C. April, 2006.
- Guest Speaker. "Blinded by the 'Barbaric' South: Prison Horrors, Inmate Abuse and the Ironic History of Penal Reform in the Postwar United States." Conference: *"The End of Southern History? Integrating the Modern South and the Nation."* Emory University. March 23-24, 2006
- Guest Speaker: "Rage, Activism and Power: African Americans and the Remaking of the Motor City, 1945-1975." 10th Anniversary Celebration. Center for African American Urban Studies and the Economy (CAUSE). September, 2005
- Guest Speaker. "What Happened to Detroit?" Spotlight on Research Television Lecture Series. March 6, 2003
- Guest Speaker. "Detroit Politics in the Sixties and Seventies: Tumultuous Past, Contested Legacy" The Institute for Detroit Studies. February 13, 2003
- Guest Speaker. "Firing Up the Motor City: Polarization and Possibility in Detroit's Auto Plants, 1965-1975. Eastern Michigan University Heritage Lecture Series 2003. February 12, 2003
- Guest Speaker. "Southern Migrants and the Transformation of Shopfloors Politics in Detroit." The 1999 Commonwealth Fund Conference, "Two Souths: Towards an Agenda for Comparative Study of the American South and the Italian Mezzogiorno." London, England. January, 1999
- Guest Speaker. "The Fight for Freedom on the Streets and Shopfloors of Postwar Detroit." The Smithsonian Institution, Program in African American Culture Conference, "The African American Freedom Struggle in the Midwest." Chicago, Illinois. October, 1998
- Guest Speaker. "The Urban Impact of Restructuring in the Auto Industry: the Case of Detroit." The International Seminar on Economic and Social Development in the Greater ABC Region. Sao Paulo, Brazil. May, 1997

PAPERS PRESENTED:

- Panelist. “Criminalizing the Kids: Rethinking Poor Performance and Choice in America’s Urban Schools.” Conference. Society for American City and Regional Planning History (SACRPH). Baltimore, MD. November 17-20, 2011.
- Panelist. “Why Mass Incarceration Matters: Rethinking Crisis, Decline, and Transformation in Postwar American History.” Symposium. *Historians and the Carceral State: Writing Policing and Punishment into Modern U.S. History.* Rutgers University. March 5, 2009.
- Panelist. “What do Prisons have to do with the fall of the Auto Industry?” Roundtable Participant. North American Labor History Association Annual Meeting. Detroit, Michigan. October, 2009.
- Panelist. “Leading the Movement from Behind Bars: Rewriting the Struggle for Racial Equality in the United States 1965-1975.” Panel title: “Student Protests”? The U.S., West Germany, and Poland in the 1960s-70s. American Historical Association Annual Meeting. New York City. January 2009.
- Roundtable Participant. “On Trial Decades Later: The American Civil Rights Movement, Memory, and the Politics of Retrospective Justice.” Social Science History Association Annual Meeting. Chicago. November, 2007
- Roundtable Participant. "Seeing the Forest Not Just the Trees: Towards a Synthetic History of Urban and Suburban Development in Postwar America." *New Directions in Urban and Suburban History*. Pacific Coast Branch. American Historical Association. August 5, 2006.
- Panelist. “Attica: Rebellion, Murder, and Justice Deferred.” The Organization of American Historians Annual Meeting. Washington, D.C. April, 2006
- Roundtable Participant. “Writing Attica Anew and Again.” Race, Roots, & Resistance: Revisiting the Legacies of Black Power Conference. University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. March 30-April 1, 2006.
- Roundtable participant. “New Directions in the Study of Black Power: From Oakland to Attica.” Annual Meeting Association for the Study of African American Life and History. Buffalo, New York. October 5-9, 2005.
- Roundtable participant. “Radical Labor Activism: From Past to Present.” The Southwest Labor Studies Association Meeting. Santa Barbara, California. May 5, 2005
- Panelist. "Beyond 'Urban Crisis': Reexamining the political legacy of the Sixties in America's inner cities." Society for American City and Regional Planning History. St. Louis, Missouri. November 6, 2003
- Roundtable Participant. "Global Politics and the American Labor Movement." The North American Labor History Conference. Detroit, Michigan. October 16, 2003.
- Roundtable Participant. "Autoworkers in the 1950s," The North American Labor History Conference. October 17-19, 2002. Detroit, Michigan.
- Panelist. “The Language of ‘Black Manhood’ and Worker Activism on Detroit’s Shopfloors: 1968-1971,” The European Social Science History Association Meeting. Amsterdam, Netherlands. April 12-16, 2000
- Panelist. “The Radical Roots of the Black Liberal Ascendancy.” The American Historical Association Annual Meeting. Chicago, Illinois. January, 2000

- Panelist. "A Ruling without Reason'; Black Militancy, Legal Liberalism, and White Disaffection with the Motor City, 1969-1973." Social Science History Association. Twenty-first Annual Meeting. New Orleans, Louisiana. October, 1996
- Panelist. "Detroit Scholarship: Future Directions." Roundtable Discussion Participant. The Eighteenth Annual North American Labor History Conference. Wayne State University. Detroit, Michigan. October, 1996
- Panelist. "Rethinking the Politics of White Flight in the Postwar City: Detroit, 1945-1980." The Center for Recent United States History Conference--Contested Terrain: The Transformation of Postwar Political Culture, 1945-1955. The University of Iowa. April 20, 1996
- Panelist. "Work Stoppages, Auto Worker Militancy and the State: the United States and Canada, 1950-1980." The Seventeenth Annual North American Labor History Conference, Wayne State University. Detroit, Michigan, 1995
- Panelist. "The Disease of Racism: An African American's 'Insanity' and Institutionalization." The American Historical Association. Chicago, Illinois. January, 1995
- Panelist. "Another War At Home: Autoworkers and Their Foremen on the Shop Floors of Detroit, 1963-1973." The State Historical Society of Wisconsin Conference, "Towards a History of the 1960s." Madison, Wisconsin. April, 1993

CONFERENCE COMMENT/CHAIR:

- Comment on session entitled, "From the War on Poverty to the War on Crime: The Rise of Punitive Policy at the Federal, State, and Local Levels." Organization of American Historians Annual Meeting. Milwaukee, WI. March, 2011.
- Chair of session entitled, "Exploring Political Networks in the Post-Civil Rights Era." American Historical Association Annual Meeting. Chicago, IL. January 2012.
- Chair of session entitled, "'Black Children and Boundaries of Innocence, 1896-1968: Gendered Criminalization, Training 'Productive' Future Citizens, and Rural Hosting Programs as Sites of Racial Transformation." 96th Annual Convention of the Association for the Study of African American Life and History (ASALH). October 5-October 9, 2011. Richmond, Virginia.
- Chair of session entitled, "Politics and Policy in the Post-Civil Rights City." American Historical Association Annual Meeting. January 6-9, 2011. Boston, Massachusetts.
- Chair of session entitled, "Suburban Diversity, Civic Identity, and Racialized Politics in Postwar America." Organization of American Historians Annual Meeting. April 7-10, 2010. Washington, DC.
- Chair and Comment of session entitled, "Forced Labor in the South after Slavery: the Longue Duree." Conference on Race, Labor and Citizenship in the Post-Emancipation South College of Charleston, March 11-13, 2010
- Chair of session entitled: "Rethinking the 1970s" the Long Civil Rights Movement in the Decade of Political Realignment. American Historical Association Annual Meeting. January 7-10, 2010.
- Comment on papers read at session entitled "Struggles for Economic Justice in the post-1960s American South" Organization of American Historians Annual Meeting. March 26-29, 2009.

- Chair of session entitled: “Reinventing Urbanity in Post-WWII America.” Urban History Association Meeting. Houston, Texas. November 5-8, 2008.
- Chair of session entitled: “Urban Renewal across the Regional Divide: American Values and Redevelopment Practices in Post-World War Two American Cities.” The Organization of American Historians Annual Meeting. Memphis, Tennessee. March 29-April 1, 2007
- Comment on papers read at session entitled, “Culture and Civil Rights in the Sixties and Seventies.” The Organization of American Historians Annual Meeting. Memphis, Tennessee. April 3-6, 2003
- Comment on papers read at session entitled, “Breaking the Mold: Gender, Class, Region, Race and Union Organization: White Collar Workers and Class Identity in the Twentieth Century.” The Twenty-Third Annual North American Labor History Conference. Wayne State University. Detroit, Michigan. October 2001.
- Comment on papers read at session entitled, “White Collar Workers and Class Identity in the Twentieth Century.” The Twenty-Second Annual North American Labor History Conference. Wayne State University. Detroit, Michigan. October 2000.
- Comment on papers read at session, entitled, “Made in Detroit: Local Histories, Local Politics.” The American Studies Association. Detroit, Michigan. October 2000
- Chair of session entitled, “New Perspectives on the New Deal.” The Graduate History Forum. University of North Carolina at Charlotte. Charlotte, North Carolina. March 22, 2000.
- Chair of session entitled, “Working Class Narratives from the Post-Industrial City.” The Twenty-First Annual North American Labor History Conference. Wayne State University. Detroit, Michigan. October, 1999
- Comment on papers read at session entitled, “New Thoughts on the 1960s.” The Organization of American Historians Annual Meeting. Toronto, Ontario. April 22-24, 1999

NATIONAL BOARDS/COMMITTEES:

- Committee Chair, *Kenneth Jackson Award for Best Book in North American Urban History*. Urban History Association, 2010.
- Committee Member, *Herbert Gutman Prize for Outstanding Dissertation*. Labor and Working Class History Association, 2010-2011
- Committee Chair, Nomination Committee. Southern Labor Studies Association, 2010-2011
- President. Southern Labor Studies Association, 2007-2009
- Appointed to Board of Contributing Editors, *Labor: Studies in Working Class History of the Americas*, 2006-2009
- Appointed to Advisory Board, Wayne State University Press: "African American Life Series," 2004
- Elected to Board of Directors, Urban History Association. January, 2003
- Elected to Board of Directors, Labor and Working Class History Association. October, 2002

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS:

- The American Historical Association

- The Association for the Study of African American Life and History
- The Labor and Working Class Studies Association
- The National Council of Black Studies
- The Organization of American Historians
- The Social Science History Association (Criminal Justice Network)
- The Southern Historical Association
- The Southern Labor Studies Association
- The Urban History Association

COMMUNITY/PROFESSIONAL BOARDS:

- Member, Board of Directors. Eastern State Penitentiary, a Historical Site. Philadelphia, PA.