

# LAURA MCTIGHE

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## APPOINTMENTS

- 2019– Assistant Professor, Department of Religion, Florida State University.  
2017–2019 Postdoctoral Fellow, Society of Fellows, Dartmouth College.

## EDUCATION

- 2017 Ph.D., Religion, Columbia University.  
2014 M.Phil., with Distinction, Religion, Columbia University.  
2013 M.A., with Distinction, Religion, Columbia University.  
2008 M.T.S., Islamic Studies, Harvard Divinity School.  
2000 B.A., *magna cum laude*, Religion, High Honors, Haverford College.

## PUBLICATIONS

### Books

- Under Contract. *Fire Dreams: Theory on the Ground in the new New Orleans*. (Duke University Press, expected publication Fall 2023)  
In Preparation. *Religion, Prisons, & Abolition*. (expected manuscript completion date Spring 2024)

### Edited Collections

2020. “‘Religio-Racial Identity’ as Challenge and Critique.” *Journal of the American Academy of Religion* 88, no. 2 (2020). Roundtable Editor.  
2019. “An Otherwise Anthropology.” *Theorizing the Contemporary, Fieldsights*, July 31, 2019. Series Co-Editor with Megan Raschig.

### Journal Articles

- In Preparation. “Moral Medicine.” (to submit to *Religion & American Culture*)  
In Preparation. “Method Making in Concert.” (co-authored with Yana Stainova)  
2021. “Keep the South Dirty and Our Needles Clean.” *Southern Cultures* 27, no. 3: “The Abolitionist South,” co-edited by T. Dionne Bailey and Garrett Felber. (co-authored with Catherine Haywood, Deon Haywood, and Danita Muse, *Women With A Vision*).  
2021. “Seeing in the Dark.” *Theorizing the Contemporary, Fieldsights*, “Art and Ethnographic Forms in Dark Times” series, co-edited by Yana Stainova and Sienna Craig.  
2021. “Our Relationships Carry the Movement.” *Radical History Review* 2021, no. 140 (2021): 186–196. Special issue “The AIDS Crisis Is Not Over,” co-edited by Emily Hobson and Dan Royles.

2020. "The Ground on Which We Stand: Making Abolition." *Journal for the Anthropology of North America* 23, no. 2 (2020): 98–120. (co-authored with Devin Burns, Lauren Dominguez, Rebekah Gordon, Lydia Moss, and Gabriela Rosario)
2020. "Theory on the Ground: Ethnography, Religio-Racial Study, and the Spiritual Work of Building Otherwise." *Journal of the American Academy of Religion* 88, no. 2 (2020): 407-439. (co-authored with Women With A Vision)
2020. "Introduction: Religio-Racial Identity' as Challenge and Critique." *Journal of the American Academy of Religion* 88, no. 2 (2020): 299–303.
2019. "Insurgent Cartography." Theorizing the Contemporary, *Fieldsights*, "An Otherwise Anthropology" series, July 31, 2019.
2019. "Introduction: An Otherwise Anthropology." Theorizing the Contemporary, *Fieldsights*, "An Otherwise Anthropology" series, July 31, 2019. (co-authored with Megan Raschig).
2019. "'To Instill Love for My People': Reassembling the Social in a Time of Mass Criminalization." *CrossCurrents* 68, no. 1, Special Issue on "Religion, Political Democracy, and the Specters of Race," edited by James Logan (2019): 179-200. (co-authored with Reverend Doris Green)
2018. "Front Porch Revolution: Resilience Space, Demonic Grounds, and the Horizons of a Black Feminist Otherwise." *Signs: Journal of Women in Culture and Society* 44, no. 1 (2018): 25-52. (co-authored with Deon Haywood)
2017. "'There is NO Justice in Louisiana': Crimes Against Nature and the Spirit of Black Feminist Resistance." *Souls: A Critical Journal of Black Culture, Politics and Society* 19, no. 3 (2017): 261-285. (co-authored with Deon Haywood)
2011. "Education, Empowerment and Community Based Structural Reinforcement: An HIV prevention response to mass incarceration and removal." *International Journal of Law and Psychiatry* 34, no. 4 (2011): 295-302. (co-authored with Jeffrey Draine and Philippe Bourgois)

## Chapters

2020. "'You have to Build a Relationship': Reflections on a CHW's Career of Outreach in Communities of Color." In *Promoting the Health of the Community: Community Health Workers Describing their Roles, Competencies and Practice*, edited by St. John J, et al. Springer. (co-authored with Ashley Wennerstrom and Catherine Haywood)
2018. "'And Still We Rise': Moral Panics, Dark Sousveillance, and Politics Otherwise in the new New Orleans." In *Panic, Transnational Cultural Studies, and the Affective Contours of Power*, edited by Micol Seigel. Routledge.
2012. "The War on Drugs is a War on Relationships: Crossing the Borders of Fear, Silence and HIV Vulnerability in the Prison-Created Diaspora." In *Beyond Walls and Cages: Bridging Prison Abolition and Immigrant Justice Movements*, edited by Jenna Loyd, et al. University of Georgia Press.
2009. "HIV, Addiction, and Justice: Toward a Qur'anic Theology of Liberation." In *Islam and AIDS: Between Scorn, Pity, and Justice*, edited by Farid Esack and Sarah Chiddy. Oneworld Publications.

### Book Reviews

2020. "Mary Frances Berry, *Five Dollars and a Pork Chop Sandwich: Vote Buying and the Corruption of Democracy*." *Journal of African American History* 105, no. 1 (2020): 188-190.
2017. "On Moments, Movements, and Women's Work." Symposium on *The New Abolition* by Gary Dorrien. *Syndicate*, April 3, 2017.

### Encyclopedia Entries

2010. "HIV/AIDS." In *Encyclopedia of Muslim-American History*, edited by Edward E. Curtis IV. Facts on File.
2010. "Contraception." In *Encyclopedia of Muslim-American History*, edited by Edward E. Curtis IV. Facts on File.

### Public Writing

2021. "[Abolition is sacred work](#)." In *The Immanent Frame*, January 28, 2021, contribution to forum on "Antiblackness as religion: Black living, Black dying, and Covid-19," co-edited by Mona Oraby and Ahmad Greene-Hayes.
2020. "[How To Make a Mutual Aid Map](#)." 2020. (shared and adapted by hundreds nationwide, reproduced in "Towards an Abolitionist Horizon: A Guidebook for Young Organizers," by Project NIA)
2020. "[HIV Prison Activists Are Leading a Freedom Movement in the Face of COVID-19](#)." In *Truthout*, April 14, 2020. (co-authored with Emily Hobson)
2018. "[Many Hands Make Light Work](#)." In *The Immanent Frame*, "Is This All There Is?" edited by Courtney Bender and Nancy Levine, March 9, 2018.
2017. "[Refusing to Vanish: Muslim Women's AIDS Activism](#)." In *The Revealer: A Review of Religion and Media*, December 1, 2017.
2016. "[Front Porch Strategy: Sacred Space and Demonic Grounds](#)." In *Religion in American History*, July 31, 2016.
2015. "[Trust Black Women: God is Change](#)." In *The Revealer: A Review of Religion and Media*, June 24, 2015.
2015. "[Making Time: Religion & Black Prison Organizing, an Interview with Hakim 'Ali](#)." In *The Revealer: A Review of Religion and Media*, March 27, 2015.
2015. "[Haunted Passages: On Carrying the Past and Envisioning Justice](#)." In *The Revealer: A Review of Religion and Media*, February 24, 2015.
2014. "[To Take Place and Have a Place: On Religion, White Supremacy & the People's Movement in Ferguson](#)." In *The Revealer: A Review of Religion and Media*, September 14, 2014.

### Community Publications

2019. "[Our Existence is Political: 30 Years of Black Feminist Struggle](#)." *Women With A Vision*, December 2019. (co-authored with Andrea Ritchie)

## RESEARCH GRANTS

- 2022–2025 “The Callie House Project: Religion and Public Health in the Black Experience in the American South.” Henry Luce Foundation. Award: \$250,000 for building a living archive on race, religion, and health with Black women activists and health practitioners across the South. (collaborative project with Jamil Drake)
- 2021 “Reimagining Black Women’s Carceral History in the South.” Committee on Faculty Research Support (COFRS) Grant, Florida State University. Award \$20,000 for summer funding to launch my second major research project.
- 2020 “American Prison Newspapers Project,” Robert B. Bradley Library Research Grant. Florida State University. (collaborative proposal with Paul Renfro) Award \$20,000 for digitizing prison newspapers nationwide, including those held in FSU collection.
- 2020 “Gendering Religion and Racializing Punishment in American History.” First Year Assistant Professor (FYAP) Grant, Florida State University. Award \$20,000 for summer funding to complete my first book project.
- 2019 “Making Abolition: The John Horace Bell Memorial Archive,” Robert B. Bradley Library Research Grant. Florida State University. Award \$2,000 for collection-building with original documents produced by QTPOC organizers in/out prison.
- 2018-2019 “Method-Making in Concert: Toward an Enchanted Method of Flourishing,” Venture Funding, Dartmouth College. Award \$20,000 for experimental ethnographic fieldwork across fieldsites. (collaborative project with Yana Stainova)
- 2016–2017 Charlotte W. Newcombe Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship, Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship Foundation. Award \$20,000 for dissertation completion.
- 2015–2016 Dissertation Fieldwork Grant, Wenner-Gren Foundation for Anthropological Research. Award \$15,000 to complete dissertation fieldwork.
- 2013 Graduate Research Fellowship, Institute for Religion, Culture, & Public Life. Award \$5,000 to pilot dissertation fieldwork.

## AWARDS AND HONORS

- 2022 Junior Faculty Leave, Spring 2022, Religion Department, Florida State University.
- 2021 Nominated for a Community Engaged Teaching Award, Florida State University.
- 2021 Selected as FSU’s Junior Scholar Nominee to the Andrew Carnegie Fellows Program. *\*\*Ineligible to compete because I received a major grant from the Henry Luce Foundation.*
- 2021 Dean’s Travel Grant. Florida State University.
- 2020 Nominated for a Community Engaged Teaching Award, Florida State University. *\*\*Ineligible to compete because I had not yet completed at least two full years of teaching at FSU.*
- 2019 Provost Travel Grant, Florida State University.
- 2019 Emerging Scholar, Center for the Study of the American South and the Department of American Studies at University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill.
- 2016–2017 Fellow, Religion and the Global Framing of Gender Violence, Columbia University.
- 2016 Annual Meeting Travel Grant, American Academy of Religion.
- 2015 Conference Travel Grant, Columbia University.

- 2014–2015 Teaching Scholar, Columbia University.
- 2014 Conference Travel Grant, Columbia University.
- 2013–2014 Klingstein Fellow, Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, Columbia University.
- 2012–2016 Summer Research Fellowship, Columbia University.
- 2011–2015 Dean’s Fellowship, Columbia University.
- 2006–2008 Presidential Scholarship, Harvard Divinity School, Harvard University.
- 2000 Religion Department Prize for the senior major who presented the best thesis.
- 2000 Martin Foss Award for the Haverford student whose life speaks directly to the lives of others by the powerful harmony of intellect, compassion, and courage.

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

### Florida State University, Department of Religion, Tallahassee, FL

#### Courses Taught

- REL 3145: *Gender and Religion* (Fall 2021, Spring 2021)
- REL 3128: *Religion, Prisons, & Abolition* (Fall 2020, Spring 2020, Fall 2019)
- REL 4491: *Hope is a Discipline: The Scholarship and Practice of Abolition* (Fall 2021)
- RLG 5305: *Collaborative Ethnography* (Spring 2021)
- RLG 5305: *Religion in the South* (Fall 2020)
- RLG 5135: *Abolition & Criminalization* (Spring 2020)

#### Directed Individual Studies

- Imagining Religion Otherwise* (Fall 2021)
- Abolitionist Research Methods* (Summer 2020)
- Prison Chaplaincy* (Fall 2019)

#### New Course Development

- Developed a three-course series on the intersections of religion and abolition at the undergraduate-level, advanced undergraduate-level, and graduate-level, “Religion, Prisons, & Abolition,” “Hope is a Discipline,” and “Abolition and Criminalization.” (2019-2021)
- Developed a graduate-level American Religious History course, “Religion in the South,” including six primary source modules designed with FSU Special Collections. (2020)
- Developed a graduate-level methods course, “Collaborative Ethnographies,” taught in partnership with Yana Stainova, Department of Anthropology, McMaster University. (2021)
- Developed the undergraduate-level course, “Gender & Religion,” as a flipped-classroom learning experience focused on the histories of religion and gender in Tallahassee. (2021)

#### Doctoral Committee Member

- Burns, Devin, doctoral candidate. [Religion, American Religious History]
- Hunter, Darryl, doctoral candidate. [Religion, American Religious History]

Lovestone, Lauren, doctoral candidate. [Religion, Religion, Ethics, and Philosophy].

Gordon, Rebekah, doctoral student. [Religion, Religion, Ethics, and Philosophy].

Perez, Humberto, doctoral student. [Religion, American Religious History]

Wolff, America, doctoral student. [Religion, American Religious History]

Davis, Sarah, doctoral student. [Religion, American Religious History]

Hudnall, Drew, doctoral student. [English, Rhetoric and Composition]

### **Masters Committee Member**

McLoughlin, Samantha, masters student. [Religion, American Religious History]

Burlingame, Delaney, masters student. [Religion, American Religious History]

Rye, Nik, masters student. [Fine Arts, Multimedia Art]

Wrobel, Nico, graduate (2020). *Creating Sacred Spaces: An Observance of American Protestant Chaplains in Hospitals and Prisons*. [Religion, American Religious History]

### **Undergraduate Committee Member**

Burgin, Simone, student (2021). *The Prison, the Prophet, and the People: (In)Justice in Senegal*. [International Affairs]

Jimenez, Alec, student (2021). *Cultural Capital, Social Capital, and Horizontal Stratification among University Undergraduates*. [Sociology]

Portuallo, Christina, student (2021). *Daily Life and Conditions at Lowell Correctional Institution, 1956 to Present*. [History]

### **New York University (NYU), Religious Studies Program, New York, NY**

Spring 2017 *Religion, Gender, & Punishment in the USA* (undergraduate)

### **Columbia University, Department of Religion, New York, NY**

Fall 2014 *Religion on the Move: People, Passages, & Possibilities in America* (undergraduate)

2012-2014 Teaching Assistant  
*Muslims in Diaspora* (with Katherine Ewing, Spring 2014)  
*Religions in America* (with Gale Kenny, Fall 2013)  
*Religions of Harlem* (with Josef Sorett and Obery Hendricks, Spring 2013)  
*Religion in the City* (with Courtney Bender, Fall 2012).

## **COMMUNITY-ENGAGED TEACHING**

### **Leon County Detention Facility, Tallahassee, FL**

Spring 2020 *What is Justice?* (pilot) Co-Founder and Co-Professor  
 An independent, collaborative educational venture to bring Liberal Arts Education to people awaiting trial in the Leon Country Detention Facility.  
 \*\*Program on hold due to COVID-19

**Project TEACH (Treatment Education Activists Combatting HIV), Philadelphia, PA**

- 2008-2010 *TEACH Inside / TEACH Outside* Co-Founder  
Expansion of TEACH Outside model to inside/outside education on the Intake Housing Units of the Philadelphia jails, reaching 100 students annually.
- 2001-2006 *TEACH Outside* Co-Founder  
An independent educational venture to address the barriers to information, support, and activism in communities most impacted by HIV and mass incarceration. As Co-Instructor and Program Director, designed curriculum, developed infrastructure, and raised funds to graduate more than 400 students.

**PRESENTATIONS****Invited Talks and Symposia**

- 2022 “Looking Back / Looking Forward.” Panelist, Society of Fellows Conference, Dartmouth College, May 2022.
- 2022 “What is the Public in Public Scholarship?” Workshop Participant, University of California, Berkeley, May 2020.
- 2022 “Making the case for community driven research.” Panelist, Drug Policy Alliance, April 2022.
- 2022 “Abolition and Beyond: ‘Change Everything.’” Guest Lecture, Anthropology, Guttman Community College CUNY, April 2022.
- 2021 “Abolition is Sacred Work.” Keynote Speaker, SORCE Undergraduate Religion Symposium, Florida State University, November 2021.
- 2021 “We Spoke Our Truths: refusing gendered criminalization, making abolition feminism geographies.” Distinguished Visitors Program, Guest Lecture and Senior Colloquium, Haverford College, October 2021.
- 2021 “Front Porch Revolution.” Guest Lecture, Black Geographies, University of Tennessee, October 2021.
- 2021 “HIV Is Not Over.” Invited Talk, PRIDE Programming, Oberland, June 2021.
- 2021 “Making Abolition: Principles for Liberatory Praxis.” Guest Lecture, Religion, Punishment, Restoration, Pomona College, April 2021.
- 2021 “Abolition is sacred work.” Sermon, Unitarian Society of Santa Barbara, March 2021.
- 2021 “Anti-Racism and BLM.” Panel, Graduate Researchers of Geography and the Tallahassee Community Action Committee, March 2021.
- 2021 “Abolition is sacred work.” Guest Lecture, Philosophy & Religious Studies student group, Ball State University, February 2021.
- 2021 “Making Abolition: The Ground on Which We Stand.” Keynote Speaker, Social Change Symposium, February 2021.
- 2021 “Addressing Racism in/and the Academic Study of Religion.” Panelist, Columbia University and Barnard College, February 2021.
- 2020 “Abolitionist Theologies: Religious Resistance to Policing and Prisons.” Webinar Panelist, Unitarian Universalist Prison Ministry of Illinois, August 2020.

- 2020 “Past as Prologue: Storytelling about Resistance to the Brutality of Incarceration.” Webinar Panelist, Survived & Punished NY (S&P-NY) and the Barnard Center for Research on Women (BCRW), May 2020.
- 2020 “What is the Public in Public Scholarship?” Workshop Participant, University of California, Berkeley, May 2020, *\*\*postponed due to COVID-19.*
- 2020 “Theory on the Ground.” University Lecture, Yale Divinity School, March 2020, *\*\*postponed due to COVID-19.*
- 2020 “Religious Studies and Mass Incarceration: Tips for Sharing Scholarship with the Public.” Webinar Panelist, Public Scholars Project, American Academy of Religion and Freedom Forum Institute, February 2020.
- 2020 “African American Religious Studies.” Workshop Participant, Princeton University, February 2020.
- 2019 “The Struggle Continues: Prisons, Religion, and Abolition.” University Lecture, MultiCultural Center, University of California, Santa Barbara, November 2019.
- 2016 “‘The System was Designed to Fail Me’: Religion, Incarceration, and the Erasure of Black Women.” University Lecture, Religion Department, Bates College, April 2016.
- 2014 “Beyond the Walls: A Conversation on Gender, Race, Religion and Incarceration.” University Lecture, Women, Gender, & Sexuality Studies, Lehigh University, September 2014.

### Conference Papers Presented

- 2021 “Corona Capitalism, or Another World Is Possible.” Paper presented at American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, November 2021.
- 2021 “Seeing in the Dark.” Paper presented at American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, November 2021.
- 2021 “Morality – Keywords for Medicine, Health & the Carceral State: Creative (Dis-)Connections for Healing & Liberation.” Paper presented at American Studies Association Annual Meeting, October 2021.
- 2020 “Corona Capitalism, or Another World Is Possible.” Paper presented at American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, American Academy of Religion, *\*\*postponed due to COVID-19.*
- 2020 “Morality – Keywords for Medicine, Health & the Carceral State: Creative (Dis-)Connections for Healing & Liberation.” Paper presented at American Studies Association Annual Meeting, American Studies Association, *\*\*postponed due to COVID-19.*
- 2019 “Theory on the Ground.” Paper presented at American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, November 2019.
- 2019 “Where’s the Religion?: Decolonizing the Field, Becoming Subjects (Again).” Paper presented at American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, November 2019.
- 2018 “Moral Medicine: Treatment and Punishment in the Race to Incarcerate Women.” Paper presented at American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, November 2018.
- 2018 “Front Porch Strategy: Sacred Space and Demonic Grounds.” Paper presented at American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, November 2018.
- 2018 “Fire Dreams: Toward an Accomplice Anthropology.” Paper presented at American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, November 2018.



- 2017 “‘There is NO Justice’: Dark Sousveillance and Politics Otherwise.” Paper presented at American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, December 2017.
- 2017 “Surveillance and Sabotage: Religio-Racial Identity in the Women’s Carceral Sphere.” Paper presented at American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, November 2017.
- 2017 “Disrupting Narratives: Myths of the drug policy reform movement.” Panelist at the International Drug Policy Reform Conference, October 2017.
- 2016 “Resurrecting the Dead: Religion, Incarceration, and Revolutionary Love.” Paper presented at American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, November 2016.
- 2016 “‘Have Faith in Reproductive Justice’: Race, Reproduction, and American Religion.” Paper presented at American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, November 2016.
- 2016 “‘New Orleans is a Prison. OPP is a Time Out.’: Refusing Innocence.” Paper presented at American Studies Association Annual Meeting, November 2016.
- 2016 “Front Porch Strategy: Repairing and Resurrecting a Post-Katrina Otherwise, a Love Song for New Orleans.” Paper presented at American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, November 2016.
- 2015 “‘In Search of Our Mothers’ Gardens’: The Spiritual Work of History-Making in Post-Katrina New Orleans.” Paper presented at American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, November 2015.
- 2015 “‘My Existence Is Political’: Black Feminist Freedom Dreams and the Brutal Magic of the State.” Paper presented at American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, November 2015.
- 2015 “When Treatment is Punishment: The Medicalization of Morality in the New War on Sex Workers.” Paper presented at American Studies Association Annual Meeting, October 2015.
- 2014 “Black Gods of the Gulag: Diasporic Religious Imaginaries in the Prison Capital of the World.” Paper presented at American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, November 2014.
- 2014 “Like a Phoenix, We Rise: Relations of Resistance in the Prison Capital of the World.” Paper presented at American Studies Association Annual Meeting, November 2014.
- 2014 “Are the Gods Afraid?: Crimes Against Nature & the Spirit of Organized Resistance in New Orleans.” Paper presented at Symposium on Global Moral Panics, Indiana University, September 2014.
- 2014 “Born in Flames: Religion, Incarceration, and the Spirit of Grassroots Resistance in New Orleans.” Paper presented at Beyond the Culture Wars, Washington University in St. Louis, March 2014.
- 2013 “Theorizing Drugs: What Can Theory & Philosophy Teach Us About Drug Policy Reform?” Panelist at the International Drug Policy Reform Conference, October 2013.
- 2013 “‘To Instill Love for Our People’: Recovering Religion in Formerly Incarcerated People’s Movements.” Paper presented at Rethinking Prisons, Vanderbilt University, May 2013.
- 2012 “Chicago’s Transcendent Third: Lived Religion in a Time of Mass Incarceration.” Paper presented at Religion and the Trans..., Northwestern University, October 2012.
- 2010 “Women, Incarceration, and Islam: Towards a Theology of Resilience and Resistance.” Paper presented at Women, Incarceration and Human Rights Conference, Emory University, February 2009.

### Conference Panels Organized

- 2019 “Theory and Method 2.0: Decolonizing the Field.” American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, November 2019. Co-organized with Alexis S. Wells-Oghoghomeh.
- 2019 “Emergent Expertise: dialogue, radical acts of listening, and co-authorship with(in) grassroots activist and organizing communities.” Society for Applied Anthropology Annual Meeting, March 2019. Co-organized with Keahnan Washington.
- 2018 “Governing Health: Race, Religion, Secularism, and the Healing State.” American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, November 2018. Co-organized with Jamil Drake.
- 2018 “Indigenous, Race-radical & Trans Feminist Responses to Mass Criminalization & the Transcarceral Continuum.” American Studies Association Annual Meeting, November 2018. Co-organized with Lena Palacios.
- 2018 “Polyphonies of Repair.” Canadian Anthropology Society CASCA-CUBA, May 2018. Co-organized with Megan Raschig.
- 2018 “Gulf South Geographies of Freedom: Rethinking the Politics and Practices of New Orleans Research in the Geographic Imagination.” American Association of Geographers Annual Meeting, April 2018. Co-organized with Lydia Pelot-Hobbs.
- 2017 “Racialized Terror, Persistence and the Otherwise: Histories and Horizons of Struggle and Surveillance.” American Anthropological Association Meeting, December 2017. Co-organized with Megan Raschig.
- 2017 “‘Religio-Racial Identity’ as Challenge and Critique.” American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, November 2017. Co-organized with Matthew Cressler, Jamil Drake, and Megan Goodwin.
- 2017 “ASA Critical Prison Studies Caucus: Abolitionist Feminisms.” American Studies Association Annual Meeting, November 2017. Co-organized with Sarah Haley and Stefanie Jones.
- 2016 “Horizons of an Otherwise: Engaging and ‘Evidencing’ the Politics of the Re\*.” American Anthropological Association Meeting, November 2016. Co-organized with Megan Raschig.
- 2016 “Front Porch Strategy: Organizing for Black Women’s Lives at the Intersections of Service, Activism, and Research.” Know Her Truths Conference, Wake Forest University, April 2016. Co-organized with Women With A Vision (WWAV), New Orleans.
- 2015 “‘My Existence is Political’: Black Feminist Freedom Dreams in the Prison Capital of the World.” Re-Visioning Justice Conference, Vanderbilt University, April 2015. Co-organized with Women With A Vision (WWAV), New Orleans.
- 2014 “Pushing Public Health to the Margins: Aggressive Policing, Aging in Prison, & Gender-Based Criminalization.” American Public Health Association Annual Meeting, November 2014. Co-organized with Jenna Loyd.
- 2014 “Freedom’s Movements, or: How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Rock the Prison Empire.” American Studies Association Annual Meeting, November 2014. Co-organized with Jenna Loyd.
- 2014 “Community Organizing is a Reentry Program.” Rethinking Mass Incarceration in the South Conference, University of Mississippi, April 2014. Co-organized with WWAV.
- 2013 “Break Every Yoke: Religion, Power and the Ends of Mass Incarceration.” American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, November 2013. Co-organized with Vincent Lloyd and Joshua Dubler.

## PUBLIC EVENTS ORGANIZED

- 2019 “30 Years at the Intersections: Justice, Action, and Black Feminist Struggle” a week-long series of events with WWAV’s Deon Haywood, hosted by the Society of Fellows at Dartmouth College, in partnership with eight academic departments and five student organizations. Co-organized with Yui Hashimoto, Pamela Voekel, and Bethany Moreton.
- 2018 “Religious Freedom and US Empire,” a Guest Lecture with Tisa Wenger, hosted by the Society of Fellows and the Religion Department at Dartmouth College.
- 2018 “Wounds and Worlds: Spiritual Healing as Politics Otherwise in California,” a Guest Lecture with Megan Raschig, hosted by the Society of Fellows and the Departments of Religion and Anthropology at Dartmouth College.
- 2018 “Medicalizing the Souls of Black Folk: Public Health and the Governance of Black Religion in the American South,” a Guest Lecture with Jamil Drake, hosted by the Society of Fellows, the Department of Religion, and the Program in African and African American Studies at Dartmouth College.
- 2015 “Theory on the Ground: religion and spirituality repressing and redeeming the struggles for justice,” co-organizer and moderator of a panel with Nyle Fort, Deon Haywood, and Josef Sorett, hosted by the Center for Religion and Media at New York University. Co-organized with Kali Handelman.
- 2015 “Making Time: Discipline and Religion in America’s Prisons,” co-organizer and moderator of a panel with Hakim ‘Ali, Tanya Erzen, Robin McGinty, and Angela Zito, hosted by the Center for Religion and Media at New York University. Co-organized with Kali Handelman.
- 2014 “Are the Gods Afraid of Black Sexuality?: Religion and the Burdens of Black Sexual Politics,” Graduate Coordinator for the annual Institute for Research in African-American Studies (IRAAS), organized by Josef Sorett, at Columbia University.
- 2014 “Graduate Student Workshop on Religion and Incarceration,” co-organizer and workshop participant, hosted by the Central New York Working Group on Religion and Mass Incarceration. Co-organized with Joshua Dubler, Chris Garces, and Vincent Lloyd.
- 2013 “Religion on the Move: Movement, Migration, Missions and new Media across Religious Traditions,” co-organizer of the Columbia University Religion Graduate Students Association’s annual conference. Co-organized with Elizabeth Tinsley.
- 2013 “Migrant Imaginaries: Religion on the Move in the African Diaspora,” co-organizer of panel with Randal Jelks, Lerone Martin, Frances Negrón-Muntaner, and Carla Shedd, hosted in partnership with the Religions of Harlem project at Columbia University. Co-organized with Josef Sorett.
- 2013 “Fencing in God,” co-organizer of a semester-long series of public talks and film screenings on religion, incarceration, and immigration, hosted by the Institute for Religion, Culture, & Public Life (IRCPL). Co-organized with Chelsea Ebin. Events included:
- “Guadalupan New York,” a talk by Alyshia Gálvez;
  - *Sin Nombre* film screening;
  - *Broken on All Sides* film screening;
  - “Religion and Incarceration,” a conversation with Winnifred Sullivan and Julio Medina;
  - *Sentenced Home* film screening; and
  - “Immigration Detention,” a panel with Jordan Flaherty, Amy Gottlieb, Rosemary Hicks, and Douglas Thompson.

## SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION

- 2022 Member, Program Committee, American Studies Association 2022 Annual Meeting, “[The Roof is on Fire](#),” November 3-6, 2022 – New Orleans, Louisiana.
- 2021–2022 Religion Selector, Preliminary Selection Committee, Charlotte W. Newcombe Doctoral Dissertation Fellowships, the Institute for Citizens & Scholars.
- 2021– Steering Committee Member, *North American Religions Unit*, American Academy of Religion.
- 2020– Member, *Black Religious Studies Working Group*, The Crossroads Project, Princeton University.
- 2019– Steering Committee Member, *Afro-American Religious History Unit*, American Academy of Religion.
- 2018– Editorial Board Member, *Reading Religion*, American Academy of Religion.
- 2018– Member, *Catholicism Colonialism, and Race in America* working group.
- 2017–2022 Steering Committee Member, *Religions and Families in North America Seminar*, American Academy of Religion.
- 2014– Co-founder of *Religion and Abolition*, a collaborative forum for activists and academics to explore religion, power, and the ends of mass criminalization.

## SERVICE TO THE UNIVERSITY

- 2021–2022 Reviewer, Committee on Faculty Research Support (COFRS) Grant Program, Florida State University.
- 2020– Faculty Advisor, LGBTheology, Florida State University.
- 2020– Member, Departmental Curriculum Committee, Department of Religion, Florida State University.
- 2020–2021 Member, Chair Selection Committee, Department of Religion, Florida State University.
- 2020– Faculty Co-Advisor, Distance Learning Pedagogy Group, Department of Religion, Florida State University.
- 2020– Member, Allison Elizabeth Overholt Memorial Scholarship Selection Committee, Department of Religion, Florida State University.
- 2019– Member, Interdisciplinary Faculty Human Rights Seminar, Florida State University.
- 2019– Faculty Co-Founder and Advisor, Mentoring Group for ARH Women, Trans and Gender Nonconforming Graduate Students, Department of Religion, Florida State University.
- 2019– Faculty Advisor, Abolition Club, Florida State University.
- 2019–2020 Member, Executive Committee, Department of Religion, Florida State University.
- 2019–2020 Advisor, Graduate Symposium, “Policing Identity, Surveilling Religion,” Department of Religion, Florida State University.
- 2011–2017 Member, University Seminar on Religion in America, Columbia University.

## **ACTIVIST EXPERIENCE/WORK HISTORY**

- 2020– Founding Member, Tallahassee Bail Fund, Tallahassee, FL.
- 2020– Founding Member, Free Them All Coalition, Tallahassee, FL.
- 2018–2020 Project Development Consultant and Evaluator, Photography in Collaboration: Migration and Religion, Magnum Foundation, New York, NY.
- 2016– Co-Founder and Associate Director, Front Porch Research Strategy, New Orleans, LA.
- 2015–2018 Advisor, ‘Prisoner to Patient’ Project, New Orleans, LA (a project of the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute).
- 2015 Volunteer Coordinator, “Ecohybridity – Love Song for NOLA,” a Black feminist visual opera for the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Hurricane Katrina), New Orleans, LA.
- 2010– Board Member, Transforming Reentry Services (formerly Men & Women In Prison Ministries), Chicago, IL.
- 2010– Board Member, Reconstruction, Inc., Philadelphia, PA.
- 2010– Board Member, Women With A Vision, Inc., New Orleans, LA.
- 2009–2014 Co-Investigator of the NIH-funded research study, “Empowerment-Based Education for HIV Prevention In / Out of Jail,” with Jeffrey Drain (Temple University) and Philippe Bourgois (University of Pennsylvania).
- 2009–2011 Co-Founder and Co-Director, Institute for Community Justice, Philadelphia, PA.
- 2008–2009 Director of Project UNSHACKLE, Community HIV/AIDS Mobilization Project, New York, NY.
- 2006–2007 Coordinator, Harvard Prison Education Project, Cambridge, MA.
- 2001–2006 Founding Director of Prison Services, Philadelphia FIGHT, Philadelphia, PA.  
- Co-Founder and Co-Instructor, TEACH Outside;  
- Co-Founder and Editor, Prison Health News; and  
- Co-Founder and Coordinator, Beyond the Walls: Prison Health Care Summit.
- 2000–2001 Student Organizer, Pennsylvania Abolitionists United Against the Death Penalty, Philadelphia, PA.

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*North American Religions Unit*  
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