



**WOMEN
OF COLOR
IN THE
ACADEMY**

Community as Rebellion: Thriving in the Academy

Friday, May 19, 2023 | 9:30 am – 5:30 pm Eastern Time

**Hosted By
Northeastern University**

“

. . . to hold us, to gently move us closer to a mirror in which our fire is collectively reflected back to us, unleashing our community as rebellion.

Lorgia García Peña, *Community as Rebellion:
A Syllabus for Surviving Academia as a Woman of Color*

”

welcome

As we come together for our seventh annual conference and celebration, it is important to reflect on where we have been, where we are, and where we are going. The last year has seen an intensification of political attacks on the humanity of people of color, women, and the LGBTQ and trans communities. At the same time that our histories are—quite literally—being erased from history curricula, our positions in the academy are becoming more precarious as colleges and universities come to rely heavily on contingent faculty to fulfill institutional visions that increasingly adhere to neoliberal logics.

There has never been a more critical time for us to engage in the work of building and sustaining communities dedicated not just to surviving in times of precarity, but to reviving the spirit of togetherness that empowers us to thrive in such an environment. Women of Color in the Academy (WOCIA) represents valuable opportunities to share our knowledge and network. But it is more than that. It also creates a space for us to build and strengthen the relationships that have enabled us to resist the systems that present challenges in both our professional and personal lives.

This year's conference theme, "Community as Rebellion: Thriving in the Academy," is an especially timely one. It reflects the challenges we face as women of color whose work involves the production of knowledge in spaces that were not created for us, as well as the ways in which we have historically met these challenges with the strength and fortitude that comes from thinking and acting as a collective. That is the aim of the conference—to continue this tradition of supporting each other in this time of heightened precarity. As Lorgia García Peña, our keynote speaker, so eloquently writes, the importance of coming together as women of color is to open up "a space from which another way of imagining the academy and the university is possible," and to create a community that "[contradicts] the violence so many of us experience in our institutions."

This sense of community, and the rebellious spirit it reinvigorates, is an expansive one. As García Peña also acknowledges, our success results from the hard work and fellowship of a broader community of women—our ancestors, families, friends, those with whom we have come into contact, and those whom we have never met. It is important to keep this work going, to take up her call to "share our work, provide feedback and support each other, and most importantly, build a network and a community where we feel it is safe to rebel."

It is in this spirit that we welcome you to this year's conference!

Sincerely,

Patricia & Nicole

**Patricia Davis and Nicole N. Aljoe
Women of Color in the Academy, Conference Co-Chairs**

We dedicate the 2023 Women of Color in the Academy Conference to all women of color in the academy who have contributed novel and non-traditional expertise, theories, and findings to our knowledge base.

While these achievements are not always recognized with tenure and promotion, they are vital to our quest to build an inclusive, honest, and excellent academy. We see you. We honor your work and your dedication to excellence in cultivating knowledge.

We embrace you and sincerely hope that, one day, you will be embraced by the

entire academy as integral to its mission of excellence. You are the members of our community who inspire us most.

It is because of you that we reaffirm our own commitment to outstanding scholarship and assert that we will continue to embrace community and harness its collective power to fuel us.



Photo is from the last in person conference held in 2019.

Connect

Networking Buddies

During the conference, you will have the opportunity to connect in community with other women of color during a morning networking session. Throughout the day, these networking buddies will help each other achieve networking goals and we hope you will find ways to remain connected after the conference.

Attending both In Person and Virtual Sessions

In person conference attendees may view virtual sessions in Curry rooms 344 and 346.





Career Advancement Opportunities

The members of the Women of Color in the Academy Planning Committee have compiled a list of resources to offer support to women of color academics in their career advancement. Search for grants, fellowships, and leadership development opportunities at woc.northeastern.edu/welcome/career-advancement.

Photography and Video Consent

By attending the conference, you are entering an area where photography, audio, and video recording may occur. By entering the event premises, you consent to photography, audio recording, video recording and its/their release, publication, exhibition, or reproduction to be used for news, promotional purposes, advertising, inclusion on websites, or any other purpose by the Women of Color in the Academy Conference and its affiliates and representatives. You release the Women of Color in the Academy Conference and each and all persons involved from any liability connected with the taking, recording, digitizing, or publication of interviews, photographs, computer images, video and/or sound recordings.

All videos and photos are the property of the Women of Color in the Academy Conference and Northeastern University and may be used in future promotional materials.

Where you see these icons     click to connect to speakers' social media.



Conference Wi-Fi Access Code: **conf963025**
Network : **NUWave - guest**
Select One Day Conference Login



Conference Digital Materials

Access the conference's interactive program and the digital version of the professional development workbook. woc.northeastern.edu/interactive-conference-program



Slack Channels

#2023-ConferenceChat — Share videos, memes, and thoughts.
#connect — Provide social media handles, emails, etc.
#resources — Broadcast opportunities.

Join the ongoing conversation with other women of color. Exchange ideas with conference attendees. bit.ly/SlackWOCIA



LinkedIn

Get event updates and more.
linkedin.com/groups/12649011



Instagram

Use [@woc_in_academy](https://www.instagram.com/woc_in_academy) to tag us in your posts and stories, or follow us at [instagram.com/woc_in_academy](https://www.instagram.com/woc_in_academy).



Twitter

Use [@WoCiA_NEU](https://twitter.com/WoCiA_NEU) to share your tweets with other conference attendees use #WOCInAcademy, or find us at twitter.com/WoCiA_NEU.



Facebook

Follow Women of Color in the Academy at [Women of Color in the Academy Conference](https://www.facebook.com/WomenofColorintheAcademyConference).



Spotify Playlist

Listen to music performed by women of color throughout the conference! Playlist: [2023 Women of Color in the Academy Conference](#).

Schedule

All times are in Eastern Standard Time

- 9:30 am | BREAKFAST**
- 10:00 am | OPENING CEREMONY**
 - LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT AND INVOCATION**
Mary Jo Ondrechen
 - OPENING REMARKS**
Patricia Davis
 - WELCOME**
David Madigan
- 10:30 am | NETWORKING WITH YOUR BUDDY**
Angela Chang
- 11:00 am | BREAK**
- 11:15 am | BREAKOUT SESSION I**
 - IN-PERSON**
 - **Empowering Women of Color through Critical Consciousness** | Adrianna E. Crossing, Chieh Li, and Felicia Waldron
 - **Networking as a Form of Rebellion** | Michelle Miller Groves
 - **Sister Resisters: Preparing Mentors for Effective Mentoring with Black Women** | Tracy Robinson-Wood and Janie Victoria Ward
 - **Sister, You are Welcome in this House: Building Community through Radical Leadership** | Trina Lynn Yearwood and Dana Fusco
 - VIRTUAL**
 - **Designing Anti-Racism** | Shanae Chapman
 - **“There’s Medicine in the Method”:** Duoethnography as a Tool for Survival | Chris Montecillo Leider and Christina L. Dobbs
- 12:30 pm | LUNCH & NETWORKING WITH THE COMMUNITY**
- 1:30 pm | PLENARY SESSION I**
 - Moderator** | Nicole Guidotti-Hernández
 - Chairs Panel** | Elora Halim Chowdhury, Marilyn Minus, María Elena Villar, and Serena Parekh

2:30 pm | **BREAK**

2:45 pm | **BREAKOUT SESSION II**

IN-PERSON

- **Black Sis Joy: How Black Women Faculty Find Joy in Higher Education** | Latesha Fussell and Shannon Musgrove
- **Integrating Cultural Perspectives into Academia: Dance as a Storytelling Medium** | Yamini Adusumelli, Anvitha Sathya, Nidhi Lal, and Prasida Unni
- **Querida Comadre: Women of Color Mothering in Academia** | Ziza Delgado Noguera and Elianny Edwards
- **Syllabus for Finding Rest in the Academic Commons** | Clareese Hill

VIRTUAL

- **Culturally Responsive, Anti-bias Early Care and Education** | Inette Bolden
- **Tired of the Grind: Setting Boundaries for Service Commitments** | Dyann C. Logwood, Sadaf Ali, and Cassandra Barragan

4:00 pm | **BREAK**

4:15 pm | **PLENARY SESSION II**

Introduction

Irene Matta

Keynote Address

Lorgia García Peña

5:15 pm | **CLOSING REMARKS, REFLECTIONS, AND GRATITUDE**

Nicole N. Aljoe

5:30 pm | **GROUP PHOTO**

5:45 pm | **BOOK SIGNING**

Lorgia García Peña

Breakout Session I

11:15 am - 12:30 pm

IN-PERSON

Empowering Women of Color through Critical Consciousness | Adrianna E. Crossing, Chieh Li, and Felicia Waldron | Curry 320

The objective of this session is to explore how critical consciousness (CC) concepts and strategies can be applied to empower women of color in the academy. In this session, CC refers to a process of developing a person's analysis of structural oppressions and building agency to enact change to transform oppressive systems. CC includes critical reflections and critical actions. Participants will (a) explore how critical consciousness can be applied to their lives, (b) discuss issues related to power and privilege, identify indicators of structural racism, and (c) share their strategies and tools to empower themselves and other women of color.

Networking as a Form of Rebellion | Michelle Miller Groves | Curry 340

Every revolution has underground communications efforts. Networking can act as a form of rebellion when BIWOC communities leverage it to elevate one another. During revolutions, back channels must be set up to ensure that collective efforts aren't compromised. Active communication within your network fosters trust and breeds opportunity: job placement, access to privileged information, access to emerging trends to capitalize on, etc. Networking allows us to simultaneously build and heal our community from generational poverty and trauma. Access to life-saving resources is critical to our rebellion.

Sister Resisters: Preparing Mentors for Effective Mentoring with Black Women | Tracy Robinson-Wood and Janie Victoria Ward | Curry 322

This invitational session will present a model of intentional mentoring designed to strengthen mentors' ability to read, name, oppose and replace racism with Black female college mentees. Optimal psychological resistance as a framework for effective mentoring will be central to our interactive discussion. Using case vignettes from *Sister Resisters: Mentoring Black Women on Campus* (authors Drs. Janie Victoria Ward and Tracy Robinson-Wood), this session will identify mentoring challenges, including race-talk tentativeness, particularly in interracial mentor/mentee dyads. Attendees will emerge with tools for resolving impasse and growing mentoring competency with Black female mentees.

Sister, You are Welcome in this House: Building Community through Radical Leadership | Trina Lynn Yearwood and Dana Fusco | Curry 318

In academia, institutions boast that they uphold equal employment opportunity laws and are free from discrimination. Yet when women of color arrive, they are often silenced, undervalued, disrespected, and marginalized. In this session, participants are invited to learn how two School of Education administrators intentionally create safe and welcoming spaces to inspire women of color and build community. Through storytelling, experiential learning, and arts integration, this session will also illustrate how the influence of Black women shaped these administrators' leadership styles.

VIRTUAL

Designing Anti-Racism | Shanae Chapman | Curry 344

Apply human-centered design principles to create change and support equity. Brainstorm how to create more diverse and inclusive products, services, and workplaces. Demystify Anti-Racism in academia and tech by exploring research and stories specific to academia, the tech industry, and the startup ecosystem. Brainstorm and prioritize actionable outcomes for Anti-Racism in your organization that you can start crafting immediately. Take action with an Anti-Racism MVP to make the greatest impact on your community starting now. Continue the journey and plan for long-term success with methods for tracking progress.

"There's Medicine in the Method": Duoethnography as a Tool for Survival | Chris Montecillo Leider and Christina L. Dobbs | Curry 346

In 2018 we began a duoethnography (Norris & Sawyer, 2016) project where we made visible how we process our experiences as brown women academics (Dobbs & Leider, 2020, 2021; Leider & Dobbs, 2022). To us, duoethnography has become a way of being in academia where together we critically examine higher education and our experiences within it. We have come to find this dialogic method as a useful tool to heal the pain we experience in the academy. In this workshop, we will introduce participants to duoethnography as a transformative method for processing academic trauma.

Breakout Session II

2:45 pm - 4:00 pm

IN-PERSON

Black Sis Joy: How Black Women Faculty Find Joy in Higher Education | Latesha Fussell and Shannon Musgrove | Curry 318

Black women faculty require space to be seen, heard, and nourished within the academy. Black women create spaces for themselves that value autonomy, collectivism, and validation, laying the foundations for experiencing joy. This workshop will engage participants through collaborative group work, authentic discussion, and mindful meditation activities that introduce and reinforce Black Sis Joy. We use meditation practices to help us achieve being fully present, calm, and grounded in the moment. Through evidence-based practices, participants will identify stressors, thoughts, and emotions that negatively impact their joy and help them re-establish wellness practices.

Integrating Cultural Perspectives into Academia: Dance as a Storytelling Medium | Yamini Adusumelli, Anvitha Sathya, Nidhi Lal, and Prasida Unni | Curry 340

Our workshop showcases a short film created by medical students, exploring the journey of a South Asian woman with postpartum depression, through Indian classical dance. This will be followed by a panel and focus group discussion to explore the use of humanities media to culturally contextualize health inequities and stigmatization in medicine. Objectives for discussion are:

1. The role of narratives in education,
2. Intersection of art, health care, and academia, and
3. Empowering people of color communities in medicine to advocate for cultural representation in education.

We hope to deconstruct the structural barriers that enable health inequities through culturally-competent medical education.

Querida Comadre: Women of Color Mothering in Academia | Ziza Delgado Noguera and Elianny Edwards | Curry 320

This workshop is guided by two women of color who met in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic and began a journey of co-mothering while navigating academia. The facilitators will share lessons learned about developing communities of care as first-generation professionals and first-time mothers, and draw upon Critical Sisterhood Praxis (Reynold et al., 2021) to discuss how their sisterhood provided necessary emotional and material support at critical junctures in their early careers. The workshop will be interactive and generative, creating a space for participants to share their own stories, tools, and resources so we can move from survival to thriving (Jolivet, 2020) in the academy and beyond.

Syllabus for Finding Rest in the Academic Commons | Clareese Hill | Curry 322

A workshop that is partially a meditation and partially a conversation on restorative care in the academic community, based on Tricia Hersey's book *Rest Is Resistance*. The first portion will be a sound bath guided meditation that will transition to a conversation including an informal presentation on a syllabus assembled from various sources, including writing promotions, somatic breathing exercises, books, and dietary wellness. The workshop will close out with an open conversation and free writing exercise.

Breakout Session II continued

2:45 pm - 4:00 pm

VIRTUAL

Culturally Responsive, Anti-bias Early Care and Education | Inette Bolden | Curry 344

An essential component of community for women of color is the access to culturally responsive childcare and early education. We will examine the four goals of anti-bias education:

1. **Identity:** demonstrating positive social identities and family pride
2. **Diversity:** expressing comfort and joy with all of human diversity
3. **Justice:** recognizing unfairness, and having the language to describe unfairness and the hurt it causes
4. **Activism:** demonstrating a sense of empowerment and the skills to act against prejudice

Participants will leave understanding what culturally responsive care looks like and how empowering it can be for them, their children, and their community.

Tired of the Grind: Setting Boundaries for Service Commitments | Dyann C. Logwood, Sadaf Ali, and Cassandra Barragan | Curry 346

Identity taxation (Rideau, 2021) is a theory that contextualizes BIPOC faculty and their service work due to their marginalized identity and sense of being overworked by the administration. Faculty of color are more likely to take on committee requests because they know they will be pushed onto another faculty member of color, leading to being overburdened with committee tasks and responsibilities, often in the name of diversity (Mohamed & Beagan, 2019). This panel discussion will allow sharing strategies on boundary setting, with particular consideration of non-tenured faculty.





“ I invite you to think about the possibilities that can emerge if we foreground social justice as a clear goal in our teaching, if we think through the tools that ethnic studies provides. ”

Lorgia García Peña, *Community as Rebellion:
A Syllabus for Surviving Academia as a Woman of Color*

Conference Hosts & Special Guests



Nicole N. Aljoe, PhD

Conference Co-Chair | Professor of English & Africana Studies; Faculty affiliate, Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Program; Faculty affiliate, NULab for Texts, Maps, and Networks; Dean's Leadership Fellow for Public Engagement, Diversity, and Research, College of Social Sciences and Humanities, Northeastern University



David Madigan, PhD

Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs, Northeastern University



Angela Chang

Associate Teaching Professor of Marketing, D'Amore-McKim School of Business



Irene Mata, PhD

Barbara Morris Caspersen Associate Professor of Humanities and Associate Professor of Women's and Gender Studies, Wellesley College



Patricia Davis, PhD

Conference Co-Chair | Associate Professor of Communication Studies, College of Arts, Media and Design, Northeastern University



Mary Jo Ondrechen, PhD

Professor of Chemistry and Chemical Biology, College of Science, Northeastern University

“ We must continue to rebel through our research and our praxis of thinking and doing ethnic studies, creating our own pockets of freedom in our classrooms, our communities of sustenance and belonging. We must continue to sing against the aggressors and oppressors as did my great-grandmother Julia, to unite in protest, and to rebel in community. La lucha sigue. ”

Lorgia García Peña, *Community as Rebellion: A Syllabus for Surviving Academia as a Woman of Color*

Keynote Speaker



Lorgia García Peña

Chair & Professor, Studies in Race, Colonialism, and Diaspora, Tufts University; Author of *Community as Rebellion: A Syllabus for Surviving Academia as a Woman of Color*

Dr. Lorgia García Peña is a writer, activist, and scholar who specializes in Latinx Studies with a focus on Black Latinidades. Her work is concerned with the ways in which antiblackness and xenophobia intersect the Global North producing categories of exclusion that lead to violence and erasure. Through her writing and teaching, Dr. García Peña insists on highlighting the knowledge, cultural, social, and political contributions of people who have been silenced from traditional archives. She is the author of three books: the award-winning *The Borders of Dominicanidad: Race, Nation and Archives of Contradiction* (Duke, 2016), which was translated and published in Spanish by Editorial Bonó in 2020; *Translating Blackness: Latinx Colonialities in Global Perspective* (Duke, 2022); and *Community as Rebellion* (Haymarket, 2022). Additionally, her work has been covered in several publications including the New York Times, the Washington Post, The New Yorker, The Boston Review, and Harper's Bazaar. She has appeared on CNN, BBC, MSNBC, Univision, and Telemundo, and is a regular contributor to NACLA and Aster(ix) Journals.

An engaged scholar committed to liberating education and bridging the gaps that separate the communities she comes from (Black, immigrant, working) and the university, Dr. García Peña is also a co-founder of Freedom University Georgia, a school that provides college instruction to undocumented students, and the co-director of Archives of Justice, a transnational digital archive project that centers the life of people who identify as Black, queer, and migrant. She has been widely recognized for her public-facing work: in 2022 she received the Angela Y. Davis Prize for Public Scholarship, in 2021 the Marguerite Casey Foundation named her a Freedom Scholar, and in 2017 the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) presented her a Disobedience Award for the co-founding of Freedom University. Additionally, her scholarship has been supported by the Ford Foundation, The Johns Hopkins University African Diaspora Studies Postdoctoral Fellowship, and the Future of Minority Studies Fellowship.

García Peña received a PhD in American Culture from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor and an M.A. in Latin American and Latino Literature from Rutgers University. Currently, she serves as the Mellon Professor and Chair of the Department in Studies of Race, Colonialism, and Diaspora at Tufts University.

Chairs' Panel

MODERATOR



Nicole Guidotti-Hernández

**Executive Director, Mills Institute,
Northeastern University**

Nicole M. Guidotti-Hernández is a recognized author, educator, researcher, and speaker on transnational feminisms, critical race studies, and Latinx studies. She joined Northeastern University as the inaugural executive director of the Mills Institute in December 2022.

PANELISTS



Elora Halim Chowdhury, PhD

**Professor of Women's, Gender, and
Sexuality Studies, College of Liberal
Arts; Director, Human Rights Minor;
Affiliate Faculty, Asian Studies
Dept; Asian American Studies
Program; Cinema Studies Program;
Dept of Conflict Resolution, Human
Security and Global Governance;
Affiliated Researcher, Consortium on
Gender, Security, and Human Rights,
University of Massachusetts Boston**

Elora Halim Chowdhury is Professor, a former Chair in the Department of Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, and Director of the Human Rights Program at UMass Boston. Her teaching and research interests include transnational feminisms, gender violence and human rights advocacy, narrative and film with an emphasis on South Asia. She is the author of *Ethical Encounters: Transnational Feminism, Human Rights, and War Cinema in Bangladesh* (2022). Her first book, *Transnationalism Reversed: Women Organizing Against Gendered Violence in Bangladesh* (2011), was awarded the National Women's Studies Association (NWSA) Gloria Anzaldúa book prize in 2012. She served as the Vice President of the National Women's Studies Association (2016-2018), and edits a book series, titled *Dissident Feminisms*, for the University of Illinois Press.



María Elena Villar, PhD

Professor and Chair, Northeastern University; Professor, Communication, Florida International University

María Elena Villar is a Professor of Communication Studies and Department Chair at Northeastern University's College of Arts, Media and Design. Her research focuses on community engagement with underrepresented and hyper-vulnerable populations in the intersection of strategic communication and health/science communication. Villar's work is based on applied projects that incorporate mixed methods and participatory approaches. She has co-created serious games for the prevention and awareness of commercial sexual exploitation of children in Colombia, and adapted that work for Latinx youth in South Florida. Villar has published over 50 peer-reviewed articles and book chapters, and has been Principal Investigator on NIH-funded pilot grants. She holds a Master's in Public Health and a PhD in communication from the University of Miami.



Marilyn L. Minus, PhD

Professor and Chair, Mechanical and Industrial Engineering, Northeastern University

Marilyn Minus is a Professor and Chair for the Department of Mechanical and Industrial Engineering at Northeastern University. Prior to joining the faculty at Northeastern she was a Research Scientist at Georgia Institute of Technology in the School of Polymer, Textile, and Fiber Engineering.


Dr. Minus' research interests concern the structure-property relationships in nano-composites. Dr. Minus' research is also focused in the area of fabrication and characterization of advanced high-performance polymer nano-composites. Polymers of interest include mainly those of linear architectures and biopolymers. Her work also looks at the interfacial interaction of these polymers with carbon nano-materials to understand morphological behavior in high-performance composites.



Serena Parekh, PhD

Distinguished Professor of Philosophy, Chair of the Department of Philosophy and Religion, Northeastern University

Serena Parekh is a Professor of Philosophy and Chair of the Department of Philosophy and Religion. She co-edits the journal, *Feminist Philosophy Quarterly*. She is the author of three books, including her most recent book, *No Refuge: Ethics and the Global Refugee Crisis* (Oxford 2020), which won the North American Society for Social Philosophy Book Award, the *Choice* Outstanding Academic Title Award, and was a finalist for the PROSE award for Philosophy from the Association of American Publishers. Professor Parekh has been interviewed as an expert on refugees in a wide variety of media including the *New York Times*, BBC World Service, *The Atlantic*, *Foreign Policy*, *Al Jazeera*, *Newsweek*, ABC News, *Bloomberg*, *Slate*, and CTV News in Canada, among others.



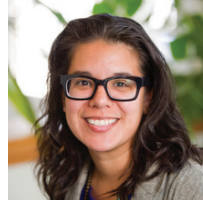
“ *What would the ideal university look like? It would look like a group of scholars of all races and ethnicities centering the work, histories, and artistic production of marginalized, minoritized, and colonized Black, Latinx, Asian, Indigenous, immigrant, disabled, and queer people rather than viewing them as objects of study.* ”

Lorgia García Peña, *Community as Rebellion: A Syllabus for Surviving Academia as a Woman of Color*

Breakout Session Leaders



Yamini Adusumelli
Medical Student, Boston University
School of Medicine



Christina L. Dobbs
Assistant Professor, Program Director,
English Education, Wheelock College
of Education & Human Development,
Boston University



Sadaf Ali
Associate Professor, School of
Communication, Media and Theatre Arts
Eastern Michigan University



Elianny Edwards
Visiting Assistant Professor,
Lynch School of Education and Human
Development, Boston College



Cassandra Barragan
Associate Professor, Aging Studies
Program Director, Social Work,
Eastern Michigan University



Dana Fusco
Dean, Graduate School of Education,
Lesley University



Inette Bolden
Early Childhood Specialist,
Montgomery County Child Care Support
Services, Rockville, Maryland



Latesha Fussell
Director of Diversity & Inclusion
for the College of Architecture, Art,
& Planning, Cornell University



Shanae Chapman
Founder, CEO, & Managing Director,
Nerdy Diva



Michelle Miller Groves
Executive Director, Center for
Computing and Interdisciplinary
Technology, Benjamin Franklin
Cummings Institute of Technology



Adrianna E. Crossing
Assistant Professor, Bouvé College of
Health Sciences, Northeastern University



Clareese Hill
Postdoctoral Research Associate,
College of Arts, Media and Design,
Northeastern University



Ziza Delgado Noguera
Assistant Professor & Chair, Ethnic
Studies, Chicana/Latinx Studies,
Social Justice Movements,
Women of Color Feminisms,
Fullerton College



Nidhi Lal
Clinical Associate Professor,
Department of Family Medicine,
Boston University Chobanian and
Avedisian School of Medicine



Chris Montecillo Leider
Assistant Professor of Applied Linguistics, College of Liberal Arts, University of Massachusetts Boston



Tracy Robinson-Wood
Professor, Applied Psychology, Bouvé College of Health Sciences, Northeastern University



Chieh Li
Associate Professor, Department of Applied Psychology, Bouvé College of Health Sciences, Northeastern University



Anvitha Sathya
Medical Student, Boston University Chobanian and Avedisian School of Medicine



Dyann C. Logwood
Assistant Professor, Women's and Gender Studies, Eastern Michigan University



Felicia Waldron
Doctoral Student, School Psychology, Bouvé College of Health Sciences, Northeastern University



Prasida Unni
Doctor of Medicine Student, Boston University Chobanian & Avedisian School of Medicine



Janie Victoria Ward
Professor Emerita, Critical Race, Gender, and Cultural Studies, and Education, Simmons University



Shannon Musgrove
Advisor, Office of Academic Diversity Initiatives, Cornell University



Trina Lynn Yearwood
Founder, Teachers Ready to Educate, Advocate and Transform; Interim Associate Dean, School of Education, Queens College



“ *I was not born rebellious; I was nurtured into rebellion. My caregivers, my grandma and aunties, not only allowed it; they fostered it. . . . It was their community that made my rebellion possible.* ”

Lorgia García Peña, *Community as Rebellion: A Syllabus for Surviving Academia as a Woman of Color*

Acknowledgments

CONFERENCE FOUNDERS

Nicole N. Aljoe, Professor of English and Africana Studies, College of Social Sciences and Humanities

Barbara Guthrie, Professor Emeritus of Nursing and Senior Research Scientist in Public Health (Social and Behavioral Sciences), Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, Yale University

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Christie Chung, PhD, Associate Dean for Research, Scholarship, and Partnerships; Special Advisor to the Senior Vice President on DEI; Professor of Psychology, Director of Mills Cognition Lab, Mills College at Northeastern

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Jennifer Castro, Director of Strategic Projects and Diversity Education

HARVARD MEDICAL SCHOOL

Adaira Landry, Assistant Professor of Emergency Medicine and Assistant Program Director of the 4-Year Harvard Affiliated Emergency Medicine Residency; Emergency Medicine U/S Fellowship Director, Brigham & Women’s Hospital; Associate Director and Advisor, Cannon Society

LESLEY UNIVERSITY

Bwann Gwann, Director of Multicultural Affairs and Student Inclusion, Office of Equity, Diversity, Inclusion, and Justice

MIT

Denise Phillips, Diversity Officer, Department of Aeronautics and Astronautics

NORTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY

Nicole N. Aljoe, Professor of English and Africana Studies, College of Social Sciences and Humanities

Diedra M. Wrighting, Executive Director, ADVANCE Office of Faculty Development

REGIS COLLEGE

Madeleine López, Director of the Center for Inclusive Excellence

RHODE ISLAND COLLEGE

LaTanya Monteiro, Assistant Director, Learning for Life

SUFFOLK UNIVERSITY

Joyya Smith, Vice President of Diversity, Access, and Inclusion

UMASS BOSTON

Tara L. Parker, Professor and Dean of the College of Education and Human Development

UMASS LOWELL

Karoline Evans, Assistant Professor, Manning School of Business

WELLESLEY COLLEGE

Irene Mata, Associate Professor of American Studies

“*My hope is that the lessons I have learned . . . in academia will bring us together in community, that they might accompany us on our path and make us feel our power.*”

Lorgia García Peña, *Community as Rebellion:
A Syllabus for Surviving Academia as a Woman of Color*



Thank You

Thank you to the Conference Planning Committee, including the founders, chairs, and members who bring their creative energy and ideas together to create an experience that is unique

from previous years. The three sub-committees continuously create new ways to connect and improve. This year the committee accepted the challenge of hosting a hybrid conference to both return to the Boston-based, in-person, venue and maintain connections with participants from across the country in the virtual conference platform.

We would also like to thank the Boston-wide Women of Color Advisory Committee for all of their meaningful contributions to the WOCIA events and initiatives.

They specifically help in planning year-round initiatives which include an annual conference, quarterly soirees/gatherings, and exploration of an online space to connect WOC faculty. The Committee is composed of faculty and staff from a variety of universities in the greater Boston area. Thank you for everything you do!

And a special thanks to the ADVANCE Office of Faculty Development at Northeastern University for providing continual administrative support and infrastructure for Women of Color in the Academy initiatives.

Specifically, we would like to acknowledge Ignacio Arruza, Reba K. Dickson, Dekel Luban, Michael Pettinato, and Sam Stokoe for all of their hard work relating to the WOCIA initiatives.

Thank You to Our Boston-wide Sponsors

The Women of Color in the Academy Conference Planning Committee would like to extend our sincere gratitude and appreciation to our sponsors.

Thank You to Our Campus Partners & Hosts

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Office of the Senior Vice Provost for Academic Affairs
ADVANCE Office of Faculty Development

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“

*Community is the most effective
form of rebellion.*

Lorgia García Peña, *Community as Rebellion:
A Syllabus for Surviving Academia as a Woman of Color*

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OF COLOR
IN THE
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