

**Dr. Meta L. Schettler**

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**ACADEMIC PREPARATION:**

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| 1994-1999: | Ph.D., African American Studies, Temple University, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania |
| 1990-1992: | M.A., African American Studies, Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut        |
| 1988-1990: | B.A., Political Science, Brown University, Providence, Rhode Island            |

**DISSERTATION:**

*“Malibongwe: Personal Narratives of Women in the Armed Struggle in South Africa.”* My dissertation brings together previously uncollected narratives of women who participated in the armed struggle of the African National Congress against apartheid. In particular I focus on women who joined the ANC after the Soweto Uprising in 1976, the contributions they made during the anti-apartheid struggle, and their purpose and motives for joining the ANC’s military wing.

**MASTER’S THESIS:**

*“Rainbow in Motion: A Kaleidoscope of Readings, Selected Poems by Rita Dove and Michael S. Harper.”* This thesis analyzes the ways in which Dove and Harper subvert the narrow categorization of black poets and the extremes of black/white imagery through tropes of invisibility, the blues and “greens,” pastoral images. An application of the feminist theory of Helene Cixous to their poetry creates the “red/orange” side of this spectrum of readings.

**MAJOR RESEARCH INTERESTS:**

African and African American literature, culture, history, Black poets, the anti-apartheid struggle, social justice movements, and writing pedagogy

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE:

California State University, Fresno, 2000-present, Africana Studies Program

Lecturer, 2000-2001

Assistant Professor, 2001-2006

Associate Professor, 2006-present

Courses taught at Fresno State:

AFRS 68: Black Protest from Emmett Till to Breonna Taylor (GE, Area F)

AFRS 40: Law, Policing and Black Communities (GE, Area F)

AFRS 150: South Africa (Multicultural/International)

AFRS 129: African American Literary Classics (GE, IC)

AFRS 164: African Cultural Perspectives (Multicultural/International)

AFRS 104W: Writing about American Inequality

AFRS 27: Introduction to African American Image and Culture (previously GE, D2)

AFRS 1: Ethnic Experience (previously GE, D2)

SSCI 180: Diversity in the U.S. (Liberal Studies, Multicultural/International)

Smittcamp Honors College, Fresno State, 2001-2003, invited to design a course for upper-division GE with a cohort of COSS faculty, *HC101: Emerging Voices After Colonialism: Revolution in Practice, Revolution in Theory*, Co-taught with Drs. Kathryn Forbes and Janet Slagter, Women's Studies Program.

English Department, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, 1999-2000, Visiting Assistant Professor

ENG 2674: Introduction to African American Literature

ENG 4674: Modes of Resistance in African American Literature

ENG 3674: Legacies: African American Literature in Historical Perspective

Mmabatho High School, English teacher and assistant hostel parent teaching ESL and African and African American literature in Mmabatho, South Africa in cooperation with the Howard Swearer Center for Public Service, Brown University, January-December 1993.

Yale University, teaching assistant to Robert Farris Thompson, Department of Art History  
Affiliated faculty to the African American Studies Department, "New York Mambo," Fall 1991.

## PUBLICATIONS:

“Sonia Sanchez’s ‘magic/now’: Black History, Haiku and Healing,” *Juxtapositions, JuxtaFour: research & scholarship in haiku*, edited by Jim Kacian, The Haiku Foundation, October 2018.

“‘another life force’: Racial Violence and Collective Memory in Sonia Sanchez’s Haiku,” *Sonia Sanchez’s Poetic Spirit Through Haiku*, edited by John Zheng, Lexington Books, May 2017.

“An African High Priestess of Haiku: Sonia Sanchez and the Principles of a Black Aesthetic,” *African American Haiku: Cultural Visions*, edited by Jianqing Zheng, Jackson: University of Mississippi Press, 2016.

“Radical Connections/Radical Breaks: African American Writers and the Haiku Form” in *Ethnic Literatures and Transnationalism*, edited by Aparajita Nanda, published by Routledge, December 2014.

“*A Luta Continua*: Afro-Brazilian Poets Navigating Pan-African Terrain,” *Obsidian III: Literature in the African Diaspora*. Special Issue: Afro-Brazilian Literature. Guest Co-Editor, Rhonda Collier. Vol. 13. No. 1 Spring/Summer 2012.

“Healing and Loss: Richard Wright’s Haiku and the Southern Landscape,” *The Other World of Richard Wright: Perspectives on His Haiku*, edited by Jianqing Zheng, Jackson: University of Mississippi Press, 2011.

“The rifle bullet’: African American History in Richard Wright’s Unpublished Haiku,” *Valley Voices: A Literary Review*, Vol. 8, No. 2, The Richard Wright Centennial Issue, 2008.

“Seeking Unity in the Postcolonial Era: Gender and Violence in the Writings of Nawal el Saadawi and Bessie Head,” in *African Diasporas: Ancestors, Migrations and Borders*, edited by Robert Cancel and Winifred Woodhull, African Literature Association Annual Series, Vol. 14, Africa World Press, 2008.

“Going to the Territory with Jay Wright and Michael Harper,” *Obsidian III: Literature in the African Diaspora*, North Carolina State University, Issue 7.2, special issue on Jay Wright, Fall/Winter 2006.

“Intersecting Afrocentric and Postcolonial Theory: Mapping Revolution in the African Diaspora,” National Council for Black Studies, *International Journal of Africana Studies*, Vol. 11, No. 2, Fall/Winter 2005.

“Inside Out: Postcolonialism, Black Arts and American Democracy,” *BMA: The Sonia Sanchez Literary Review*, Issue 10.2. Spring 2005.

## **PUBLICATIONS, continued:**

“Teaching ‘War Stories’: Literature, Violence and Resistance in South Africa and the United States,” *Safundi: the Journal of South African and American Comparative Studies*, Issue 16, October 2004.

“Celebrating *Ubuntu*, Decolonizing the American Mind: June Jordan and Sonia Sanchez,” *Abafazi: The Simmons College Journal of Women of African Descent*, Vol. 13, No. 1.

Book review, *Incognegro: A Memoir of Exile and Apartheid*, by Frank B. Wilderson, III, for *Callaloo: A Journal of African Diaspora Arts and Letters*. Vol. 32, no. 1, Winter 2009.

Book review, *Writing a Wider War: Rethinking Gender, Race, and Identity in the South African War, 1899-1902* for *Jenda: A Journal of Culture and African Women’s Studies*, Issue 8, 2006.

## **ACADEMIC/COMMUNITY SERVICE + PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT:**

- CHHS/COSS WAC Retreat led by Jenny Krichevsky, August 1-August 4, 2022, a workshop on writing pedagogy in the fields of Social Sciences and Health/Human Services
- CSU Quality Assurance summer training, Q3(2) - Advanced QLT Course in Teaching Online - July 2021
- CSU Quality Assurance summer training, Virtual Summer Institute, a three-week advanced online course in online teaching taught by CLAS faculty Annabella España, June 2020
- CSU Quality Assurance summer training, Q1-S to Q-1 Certification – Introduction to Teaching Online Using QLT, May 2020
- Ghana International Faculty Partnership Seminar, CSU Faculty Affairs Committee of the Academic Council on International Programs (ACIP), June 9-16, 2018, University of Ghana, Accra. A week-long seminar with a cohort of faculty across the CSUs, designed to provide international experiences for faculty of diverse disciplines from all CSU campuses. The mission of the CSU International Programs (CSU IP) is to foster opportunities for students and faculty.
- Department/University level service @ Fresno State
  - Program Coordinator, Africana Studies Program, 2022, continuing
  - Assessment coordinator for the Africana Studies Program, 2005-present, continuing
  - Academic Senator, 2000-2003, 2006-2009, Spring 2012-Spring 2018

## ACADEMIC/COMMUNITY SERVICE + PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT:

College-level service, College of Social Sciences, Fresno State

- Executive Committee of the College of Social Sciences, 2015-2020
  - Curriculum Committee, 2003-2006, 2014-2020, chair 2015-2020
  - Vice Chair of the College Academic Assembly, 2004-2006, 2013-2014
  - Ad hoc International Education Committee, 2010-2015
  - Elections Committee, 2006-2009
  - Budget Committee, 2002-2004
  - Research Committee, 2002-2005
  - Multiple search committees for faculty, staff, and administrator hiring, 2006-present for the Africana Studies Program and with the Executive Committee of COSS
- Member, Faculty Learning Community, Writing Across the Curriculum, Winter 2016/Spring 2017
- Writing course in CSU, Summer Arts held at CSU Monterey Bay, “The Poet’s Metamorphosis: From Page to Stage to Screen,” taught by Bill Mohr, CSU Long Beach, Summer 2015 (enrolled as a student with fee waiver)
- Online courses in poetry taken with The Poetry Barn, Hudson Valley, NY
- *Haiku & Tanka: Amazement & Intensity*, June/July 2016, taught by Alan Summers.
  - *The Southern Landscape: The South in Verse*, May/June 2017.
  - *Writing the Politicized Body*, July 2017.
  - *Poetry in the World: A Field Guide*, April 2021.
  - *I’m With The Banned – Celebrating & Exercising Our Freedom To Read & Write* (self-paced), September/October 2022.
- Teaching fellow, San Joaquin Valley Writing Project Invitational Summer Institute, Summer 2011 – month-long training with cohort of K-16 fellow teachers connected to the National Writing Project, <https://www.nwp.org/> led by faculty from the Kremen School of Education and the English Department
- San Joaquin Valley Writing Project, Winter Reunion, February 28, 2015, workshop presenter, “Tell Your SJVWP Story.”
  - Advanced Academy, Writing for Social Justice, Summer 2016
- WAC (Writing Across the Curriculum) Advisory Council, 2012-2015
- Service-Learning Seminar with Chris Fiorentino and Prof. Ben Boone, 2014-2015. 12-hour seminar held November 14, December 5, January 30, February 20 and March 6.
- Added service-learning projects/collaborative writing projects and mentoring as pen-pals with Hoover High School, Edison High School, and Wilson Elementary classrooms

## ACADEMIC/COMMUNITY SERVICE + PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT:

- Service-Learning Projects, continued.
  - *AFRS 129: African American Literary Classics*, Fall 2015 & Fall 2019
  - *AFRS 104W: Writing About American Inequality*, Fall 2018- Spring 2019
  - *SSCI 180: Diversity in the U.S.*, Spring 2016 & Spring 2020.
- Strategic Teacher Education Partnership, STEP-Project, Summer Academy, June 2015, a Liberal Studies initiative aligning courses with Common Core, improving use of technology, and increasing service learning for courses in Liberal Studies and the beginning of a 2015-2015 Liberal Studies Faculty Learning Community for the revision of *SSCI 180: Diversity in the U.S.*
- Panelist, African American Intellectual Thought Symposium with the Africana Studies Program organized by Dr. Malik Simba, “Black Women’s Literary Expressions: Aesthetic Writings, Political Writings, and Autobiographical Writings,” April 2014, individual presentation “Sonia Sanchez: Vanguard Voice of the Black Arts Movement and Beyond”
- Participant, WAC/WID (Writing Across the Curriculum/Writing in the Disciplines) Summer Workshop, August 2013, facilitated by Asao Inoue
- World Cultures and Globalization Cohort, 2012
- Participant, Writing Across the Curriculum Summer Seminar for COSS faculty, Summer 2012
- Member of the Organizing Committee, MELUS--Society for the Study of Multi-Ethnic Literature of the U.S., “Work, Migration, and Globalization: Contested Journeys in Multi-Ethnic U.S. Literature,” 21st Annual Conference, March 2007, Fresno, California
- Lead Organizer, Rosa Parks-Dr. King Student Award Banquet, 2006-2009
- Panelist & organizer, Africana Studies Panel Discussions on President Obama, Fresno State African People’s History Month, 2007-2016
- Treasurer, WILPF, Women’s International League for Peace & Freedom, Fresno Chapter, 2006-2014
- Organizer for Women in Black, on-campus peace vigil with two student groups, POWER and the Campus Peace & Civil Liberties Coalition, 2006-2010
- Lead Organizer for Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Student Conference, Fresno State 2001-2006 for the Africana Studies Program

## **ACADEMIC/COMMUNITY SERVICE + PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT:**

- Keynote speaker, Africana Culture Night @ Fresno State, “The Birth of Democracy – Remembering South Africa,” Spring 2012
- Advisor for student groups and sororities including Alpha Kappa Alpha, Zeta Phi Beta, Delta Sigma Theta and BDX/Dance Express
- University-wide: Undergraduate Academic Program Review Subcommittee, Fresno State, 2001-2002
- University-wide service: General Education Committee, Fresno State, Spring 2002-2004

## **PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS/CONFERENCE PAPERS:**

“Black Arts Matter: Politics and Healing in African American Haiku,” Modern Language Association, Annual Conference, Seattle, Washington, January 2020. Panel organized by Ce Rosenow. Panel description: African American haiku is a central, and often overlooked, part of the American Haiku Movement. This panel presented new approaches to two central figures in African American haiku, Richard Wright and Amiri Baraka, in order to focus on less-recognized aspects of their work.

“Sonia Sanchez’s ‘magic/now’: Black History, Haiku and Healing,” American Literature Association, Annual Conference, San Francisco, May 2018, panel organized by the Haiku Society of America

“*Ashe!* Writing the electric: Richard Wright and the Black Arts Movement,” Haiku North America, Santa Fe, New Mexico, September 2017

“Harboring A Fugitive (History) in Michael Harper’s Poetry,” MELUS (Multi-Ethnic Literature of the U.S.), Annual Conference, MIT, Boston, Massachusetts, April 2017

“‘May She Sleep Where It Rains’: Self-Sacrifice, Wholeness and Social Justice in African and African Diasporic Women’s Writing,” African Literature Association, Annual Conference, Atlanta, April 2016

“Sonia Sanchez: Vanguard Voice of the Black Arts Movement and Beyond,” 8<sup>th</sup> African American Intellectual Thought Symposium, “Black Women’s Literary Expressions: Aesthetic Writings, Political Writings, and Autobiographical Writings,” Thursday, April 24, 2014 @ Fresno State

“African Heritage and the Ralph Ellison Centennial: Black Writers Writing Resistance” MELUS (Multi-Ethnic Literature of the U.S.) Annual Conference, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, March 2014

## PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS/CONFERENCE PAPERS:

“An African High Priestess of Haiku: Sonia Sanchez and the Principles of a Black Aesthetic,” NCBS, National Council of Black Studies, Indianapolis, Indiana, March 2013

“Radical Connections/Radical Breaks: African American Writers and the Haiku Form,” MELUS Annual Conference, San Jose, California, April 2012

“‘Difficult Beauty’ – Richard Wright’s Haiku and the Southern Landscape,” National Council for Black Studies, Annual Conference, New Orleans, March 2010

“*This Other World* and *Black Boy*: Healing and Loss,” *Celebrating 100 Years of Richard Wright*, The American University of Paris, panel presentation, “Wright, Haiku and Visionary Art,” June 19-21, 2008

“From *Paradise* to *Mumbo Jumbo*: Origins and Destinations in the African Diaspora,” National Council for Black Studies, San Diego, March 2007

“‘Da Roof Is On Fire’: Theory, Third Wave and Africana Studies,” for panel presentation with Fresno State colleagues, National Women’s Studies Association, Oakland, June 2006

“Intersecting Afrocentric and Postcolonial Theory: Mapping Revolution in the African Diaspora,” for panel presentation, “New Directions in Africana Studies,” National Council for Black Studies, New Orleans, March 2005

“Trespassing and Translating Culture(s): Resisting Globalization, Reclaiming the Land,” National Women’s Studies Association, Orlando, June 2005

“‘Open the Road to Aztlán’: Multiculturalism and the Politics of Race in Gayl Jones’ *Mosquito*,” MELUS conference, “*Tranfronterismo*: Crossing Ethnic Borders in U.S. Literatures” San Antonio, March 2004

“Celebrating *Ubuntu*, Decolonizing the American Mind: June Jordan and Sonia Sanchez,” National Association of Ethnic Studies, Phoenix, April 2003

“Crossing Boundaries: Seeking Unity in the Postcolonial Era,” African Literature Association, San Diego, April 2002

“Bridging the Gap Between Literature and Activism: Lessons from the Last Millennium for Pedagogy and Practice in Ethnic Studies,” National Association for Ethnic Studies, March 2001, New Orleans

“Daughters of Nzingha: The Limits and Possibilities of Feminism in Southern Africa,” National Women’s Studies Association, St. Paul, Minnesota, June 2001



## **PUBLIC PERFORMANCES & TALKS:**

Campus Teach-in organized by Lori Clune and COSS faculty, "Race & Privilege" viewing Raul Peck's 2017 documentary on James Baldwin, *I Am Not Your Negro*, with post-screening discussion

Africana Studies annual panel discussions on President Obama during Black History Month – Fresno State, 2012-2016

*Sankofa Film Festival* hosted by the Africana Studies Program, October 2014

Key Note – Africana Culture Night with Black Students United, Fresno State, February 2012, African Peoples' History Month

"Yesterday, Today and Forever," April 4, 2005, Channel 49, KNXT - Panel discussion on nonviolence and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. with Dr. Matt Jendian, Francine Oputa (Women's Resource Center), and Ruth Obel-Jurgensen

Reading in the Free Speech Area, Women in Black/Women Standing Against Violence, Women's Herstory Month, Fresno State, March 2004.

Cast Member, Vagina Monologues, organized by Women's Alliance for Women's Herstory Month, Fresno State, March 2002

*Mosaic Voices* ensemble, Tamejavi Festival, Tower Theater, Fresno, April 2002

## **FELLOWSHIPS RECEIVED:**

FLAS Fellowships, Foreign Language and Area Studies, from Ohio State University to attend UC Berkeley, Zulu II, Summer 1995; from Yale University to attend Boston University, Zulu I, Summer 1994.

Temple University, research assistant/department fellowship, African American Studies, Spring 1995.

Yale University, university fellowship (full tuition), African American Studies, Fall 1990-Spring 1992.

## **PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS:**

NCBS – National Council for Black Studies  
MELUS – Multi-Ethnic Literature of the U.S.  
ALA – African Literature Association  
MLA – Modern Language Association