

2011
Curriculum Vitae

Susan J. Rasmussen, Anthropology

Areas of Research Specialization: Religion and Symbolism; Gender; Aging and Life Course; Healing and Personhood; Verbal Art and Performance; Anthropology and Human Rights; Culture Theories, in particular in relation to aesthetics and the senses; Ethnographic Analysis, in particular in relation to memory and personal narrative; African Humanities

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Academic Training

Indiana University, Bloomington, Indiana
Ph.D. in Anthropology, minor African Studies; May 1986
University of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois
M.A. in Social Sciences and Cross-Cultural Studies; 1973
Faculte de lettres, Universite de Dijon, Dijon, France
Certificate in French language and culture; 1969
Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois
B.A. in Anthropology; June, 1971

Teaching and Professional Experience

University of Houston, Department of Anthropology, Houston, Texas (August, 1990-present; tenured, 1996, promoted to Full Professor 2000)
Professor, Anthropology
Smithsonian Institution, Department of Anthropology, NHB Stop 112, Washington, D.C. 20560 (1989-90)
Postdoctoral Research Fellow
University of Florida, Center for African Studies and Department of Anthropology, Gainesville, Florida (1987-89)
Outreach Coordinator and Visiting Professor
IUPUI-Columbus, Columbus, Indiana, Division of Social Sciences (Spring 1985-Fall 1987)
Associate Faculty, Anthropology
Continuing Studies, Independent Study Program, Indiana University, Bloomington, Indiana (1986-87)
Grader, tutor
Valparaiso University, Valparaiso, Indiana, Department of Sociology (1986)
Assistant Adjunct Professor, Anthropology
Indiana University, Bloomington, Indiana, Department of Anthropology (1979-80; 1981-82; 1984-85)
Associate Instructor
Indiana University Southeast, New Albany, Indiana, Division of Social Sciences (Adjunct Lecturer)

Indiana Central University, Indianapolis (now University of Indianapolis), Department of Behavioral Sciences (Summer and Fall 1982)

Instructor, adjunct faculty

Indiana University, Kinsey Institute for Sex, Gender, and Reproduction (Summer 1981)

Indexing research assistant

Ministry of Education, Niger, West Africa (1977-79)

English teacher, local contract

Peace Corps, Niger, West Africa (1974-77)

English teacher, Peace Corps volunteer program

Awards and Major Research Grants

Major National Competitions:

July 2011 West African Research Association and American Institute for Maghrib Studies, Niamey, Niger conference Saharan Crossroads, and ongoing longitudinal research

Sept. 2006-Jan. 2007 Individual (Post-Ph.D.) Research Grant, Wenner-Gren Foundation for Anthropological Research

Dec. 2001-Feb. 2002 and June-Sept. 2002 (two-phase, two-country project) Fulbright Hays (Council for International Exchange of Scholars, African Area Research)

1998 Small Grant, Wenner-Gren Foundation for Anthropological Research; Fulbright Hays (CIES)

1995 Social Science Research Council; Small Grant, Wenner Gren Foundation; National Geographic Committee for Research and Exploration

1991 Small Grant, Wenner-Gren Foundation for Anthropological Research

1990 National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Seminar, "Poetics and Social Life", Indiana University, Bloomington, Indiana

1989-90 Smithsonian Postdoctoral Research Fellowship

1982-83 Fulbright Hays Fellowship for Doctoral Field Research

University Research Awards:

2006, 1999 Fall Semester Faculty Development Leaves

1995, 2000 Travel Award, Women's Studies

1994, 1997 Travel Award, African-American Studies

1991 University of Houston Limited Grant-in-Aid

1985 Indiana University Summer Fellowship Award

1983-84 Indiana University Grant-in-Aid

1980-81 Indiana University, FLAS in African Language study (Hausa)

1972-73 University of Chicago, Tuition Grant Scholarship

1971 Northwestern University, Dean's List

Honors

March 2008 Africanist Award for Research Excellence, University of Texas, Austin

Field Research Experience

Total: approximately seven years' residence and field research over nearly a thirty-year period, between 1974 and 2007, in Niger, more recently in Mali, in predominantly Tuareg (Kel Tamajaq) communities; and also some briefer research in France and the U.S.A. among Tamajaq-speaking itinerant artisans, traders, performers, migrants, exiles, and expatriates

Postdoctoral field research projects:

- a) (pilot project) preliminary research on Kabyle immigrants in France, June-July 2009
- b) research on performance, actors, modernity, and memory in urban Tamajaq theater and acting in northern Mali, Sept. 2006-Jan. 2007
- c) research on changes in Tuareg (Kel Tamajaq) gender constructs from impact of drought, rebellion, repatriation and sedentarization, conducted in two phases and two countries: in Niger Dec. 2001-Feb. 2002 and in Mali June-Sept. 2002)
- d) research comparing rural and urban Tuareg smiths, in Niger and briefly in France, in terms of social boundaries and mediation, ritual power, performance, art, and cultural "authenticity" issues, Summer 1998
- e) research on life course, concepts of personal destiny, and aging among Tuareg in rural Air region, Summer 1991

Doctoral field research, 1982-83, in Niger, as follows:

a) Ph.D. dissertation field research. Study of spirit possession rituals among Kel Ewey Tuareg in rural Air region

Predoctoral field research: in 1976, 1977, 1978, in Niger, as follows:

- a) preliminary field research in Agadez for one year in 1976; and
- b) in the rural Air Mountains over two summer (rainy) seasons, during my initial five-year residence in Niger. Study of Tamajaq, language of the Tuareg, and Hausa, lingua franca and language of Hausa in Niger; and examination of general social and cultural features of Kel Ewey Tuareg; and
- c) experience as volunteer part-time research assistant in socio-linguistic study among pre-school children for Professor Clifford Hill, in Niamey, Niger, 1974-75

Publications and Conference Presentations

Published works

(Books, authored)

2006 Those Who Touch: Tuareg Medicine Women in Anthropological Perspective, Northern Illinois University Press, DeKalb, Ill.

2001 Healing in Community: Medicine, Contested Terrains, and Cultural Encounters among the Tuareg, Greenwood, Bergin & Garvey Press

1997 The Poetics and Politics of Tuareg Aging: Life Course and Personal Destiny in Niger, Northern Illinois University Press

1995 Spirit Possession and Personhood among the Kel Ewey Tuareg, Cambridge University Press

(Peer-reviewed articles in refereed journals and edited books)

2011a Amerindian Anthropology and Perspectivism: Insights from Anthropology of Religion, African Humanities, and Collaborative Ethnography, Culture and Psychology 17(2):pp.159-176.

2011b Cultural Anthropology, critical historical overview of discipline, the Oxford Handbook of Culture and Psychology, eds. Jaan Valsiner and Chad Zimmerman, Oxford University Press

2011c Spiritual Travels, Social Knowledge: Entering the Space of Possession. In The Anthropologist as Nomad: Serendipity in Ethnographic Work (in honor of Professor Emanuel Marx), eds. Esther Hertzog and Haim Hazan, Surrey, U.K.: Ashgate Publishing Ltd., pp. 251-272.

2010a Acting As Heroic. In Narrating War and Peace in Africa, eds. Toyin Falola and Hetty ter Haar, Rochester: University of Rochester Press, (chapter 8): pp 155-180.

2010b Debating Beauties (a three-way and rural-urban comparison of bodily aesthetics). In Tuareg Society within a Globalized World: Saharan Life in Transition, eds. Anja Fischer and Ines Kohl, London and New York: I.B. Tauris Press, (chapter 9): pp. 125-143.

2010c Re-Making Body Politics: Dilemmas Over Female Fatness as Symbolic Capital in Two Rural Tuareg Communities (a two-way nomadic-settled comparison), Culture, Medicine, and Psychiatry: An International Journal of Cross-Cultural Health Research (December) 34(4):pp. 615-632.

2010d The Slippery Sign: Cultural Constructions of Youth and Youthful Constructions of Culture in Tuareg Men's Face-veiling," Journal of Anthropological Research (Winter) 55(4):pp.471-493.

2010e Contested Performances: At the Crossroads of Local and Global Aesthetic Knowledge and Practice in "Modern" Urban Tamajaq (Tuareg) Theater in Northern Mali, Anthropological Quarterly 83(4): pp.753-782.

2009a Opening Up Perspectives on Relatedness and Autonomy in Parent-Children Dynamics: Anthropological Insights (critical theoretical overview/commentary), Culture & Psychology vol. 15(4):pp. 433-449.

2009b Critically Re-Thinking "Islamic Dress:" The Problem of Cultural, Religious, and Gendered Practices in Tuareg Women's Draping and Coverings, The American Journal of Semiotics 25(1-2):pp. 1-23.

2009c Mythico-History, Social Memory, and Praxis: Anthropological Approaches and Directions (critical theoretical overview article), History Compass 7:pp.1-16.

- 2009d Dynamic Processes and the Anthropology of Emotions in the Life Course and Aging: Late-Life Love Sentiments and Household Dynamics in Tuareg Psycho-Biographies. In Dynamic Process Methodology in the Social and Developmental Sciences, eds. Jaan Valsiner, Molenaar, Lyra, and Chaudhary, New York: Springer-Verlag Press, (chapter 24), pp. 541-567.
- 2009e Do Tents and Herds Still Matter? In Gender in Cross-Cultural Perspective, eds. Carolyn Sargent and Caroline Brettell. 5th edition, Upper Saddle River, NY.: Prentice Hall, Pearson Education, pp.162-174.
- 2008a Introduction: Health Knowledge and Belief Systems in Africa (Critical/Theoretical Overview). In Health Knowledge and Belief Systems in Africa, eds. Toyin Falola and Matthew Heaton, Durham: Carolina Academic Press, pp. 3-29.
- 2008b The People of Solitude: Recalling and Reinventing Essuf, (the Wild) in Traditional and Emergent Tuareg Cultural Spaces, Journal of the Royal Anthropological Institute 14:609-627
- 2008c Personhood, Self, Difference, and Dialogue: (theoretical/critical article), International Journal for Dialogical Sciences, vol. 3, number 1 (Fall): pp. 31-54
- 2007a Identity, Difference, and Power: The Social Construction of Tuareg Smiths' Allegedly Dangerous Tezma Force, Journal of Ritual Studies, vol 21, number 1:pp.49-67
- 2007b Revitalizing Shame (Critical/Theoretical Topic Overview and Commentary), Culture and Psychology, vol. 13(2):pp.231-242
- 2007c Anthropological Knowledge and Local Cultural Theory, The International Journal of the Humanities, vol. 4, no. 7:127-134
- 2007d Re-Formations of the Sacred, the Secular and Modernity: Nuances of Religious Experience among the Tuareg (Kel Tamajaq), Ethnology. Vol. 46, no.3:185-203
- 2007 e Boundaries, Exclusion, and Oppression, Integrative Physiological and Behavioral Science vol. 41, issue 3-4: pp. 308-318 (December)
- 2006 Moving Beyond Protest in Ichumar Musical Performance, Ethnohistory 53(4):633-655
- 2005a A Temporary Diaspora: Contested Representations of Cultural Memory in a Tuareg International Performance, Anthropological Quarterly vol. 78, no. 4: pp. 793-827
- 2005b Celebrity, Remembering, and Forgetting in Tuareg-French Relations: Urban Commemorations of a Rebel Hero, chapter 16 in Urbanization and African Cultures, editor, Toyin Falola, Durham: Carolina Academic Press, pp. 211-234
- 2005c (4th edition) Pastoral Nomadism and Gender: Status and Prestige, Economic Contribution, and Division of Labor among the Tuareg of Niger, pp. 280-295. In Gender in Cross-Cultural Perspective, eds. Carolyn F. Sargent and Caroline B. Brettell, Upper Saddle River, N.J.: Prentice Hall
- 2005d Dress, Identity, and Gender in Tuareg Culture and Society. In The Art of Being Tuareg: Saharan Nomads in the Modern World, editors Kristyne Loughran and Thomas Seligman, Palo Alto and Los Angeles: Stanford University Iris and B. Gerald Cantor Arts Center and UCLA Fowler Museum of Cultural History, chapter 6, pp. 139-158
- 2004a Reflections on Witchcraft, Danger, and Modernity, Africa: Journal of the International African Institute 74(3):315-340.
- 2004b 'These are Dirty Times!' Transformations of Gendered Spaces and Islamic Ritual Protection in Tuareg Herbalists' and Marabouts' Al Baraka Blessing Powers , Journal of Ritual Studies 18(2):43-60.
- 2004c [2001] In the Shadow of Great Sheltering Songs (Trees): Women's Spirit Possession Songs and Sense of Embodied Place in the Tuareg Poetic Imagination, The American Journal of Semiotics 17(4):43-92.
- 2004d Afflictions of the Stomach: Smith As Stranger. In Customary Strangers, ed. Joseph Berland and Aparna Rao, New York.: Praeger, pp. 95-121 .
- 2003a When the Field Space Comes to the Home Space: New Constructions of Ethnographic Knowledge in a New African Diaspora, Anthropological Quarterly vol. 76, no.1: 7-33
- 2003b Friends of the Kel Essuf: Perspectives on Shamanism in Tuareg Mediumistic Healing. Cultural Survival Quarterly, Summer, pp. 32-35.
- 2003c Gendered Discourses and Mediated Modernities: Urban and Rural Performances of Tuareg Smith Women, Journal of Anthropological Research, vol. 59 (Winter): 487-510

- 2002a Sacrifice and the Problem of Translation: The Construction of Meaning in Tuareg Animal Sacrifice, Journal of Ritual Studies, vol. 16, issue 2: 141-164.
- 2002b The Uses of Memory (Critical Commentary/Theoretical Overview article), Culture and Psychology vol. 8(1):113-129.
- 2002c Tuareg Labor Migration, Gendered Spaces, and the Predicament of Women, City and Society, vol. XIV(2):281-311.
- 2002d De l'Air au Texas: les voyages recents des artisans touaregs. In Voyager d'un point de vue nomade, ed. Helene Claudot-Hawad, Paris et Aix-en-Provence: Mediterranee, IRMAM, pp. 89-101.
- 2001a Wedding of Calm and Wedding of Noise: Aging Performed and Aging Misquoted in Tuareg Rites of Passage, Journal of Anthropological Research, vol. 57:277-303.
- 2001b Grief At Seeing a Daughter Leave Home: Weeping and Emotions in the Tuareg Techawait Ceremony, Journal of American Folklore 113(450):391-421.
- 2001c Betrayal or Affirmation? Transformations in Witchcraft Technologies of Power, Danger, and Agency among the Tuareg. In Magical Interpretations, Material Realities, eds. Henrietta Moore and Todd Sanders, London: Routledge, chapter 7, pp. 136-160.
- 2000a Between Several Worlds: Images of Youth and Age in Tuareg Popular Performances, Anthropological Quarterly 73(3):133-145.
- 2000b From Childbearers to Culture-Bearers: Transition to Postchildbearing Among Tuareg Women, Medical Anthropology vol. 19, pp. 91-116.
- 2000 c Parallel and Divergent Landscapes: Cultural Encounters in the Ethnographic Space of Tuareg Medicine, Medical Anthropological Quarterly 14(2):242-270.
- 2000d Alms, Elders, and Ancestors: The Spirit of the Gift among the Tuareg, Ethnology, vol. 39, no.1, pp.15-38.
- 2000e Exalted Mothers: Gender, Aging, and Post-childbearing Experience in a Tuareg Community. In Rethinking Pastoralism in Africa, ed. Dorothy L. Hodgson, Oxford: James Currey, Athens: Ohio University Press, and Nairobi: EAEP, chapter 8, pp. 186-207.
- 1999a Culture, Personhood, and Narrative: The Problem of Norms and Agency (critical commentary/theoretical overview article), Culture and Psychology, vol. 5(4):399-412 (December 1999)
- 1999b Making Better "Scents" in Anthropology: Aroma in Tuareg Sociocultural Systems and the Shaping of Ethnography, Anthropological Quarterly, April, 72(2):pp.55-74.
- 1999c The Slave Narrative in Life History and Myth, Ethnohistory, January, 46(1):pp. 67-108.
- 1998a Amagal: Medicine, Healing, and Power in Tuareg Caregiving Discourse, Nomadic Peoples: Commission on Nomadic Peoples, International Union of Anthropological and Ethnological Sciences, thematic issue "Savoirs et pouvoirs au Sahara" (NS) vol. 2, issues 1-2 (pp. 150-177)
- 1998b Within the Tent and At the Crossroads: Travel and Gender Identity among the Tuareg of Niger, Ethos 26(2):pp.153-182.
- 1998c Only Women Know Trees: Medicine Women and the Role of Herbal Healing in Tuareg Culture, Journal of Anthropological Research, vol. 54, no.2: pp.147-171.
- 1998d Ritual Powers and Social Tensions as Moral Discourse among the Tuareg, American Anthropologist 100(2):pp.458-468.
- 1998e The Friend At the Distance: Tuareg Travel Narratives, Tourism, and Construction of Difference in Northern Niger, The American Journal of Semiotics, vol. 11, nos. 3-4:pp.115-153.
- 1998f Reflections on Myth and History: Tuareg Concepts of Truth, "Lies," and "Children's Tales," Oral Tradition, 13(2) (October): 247-284.
- 1997a Between Ritual, Theatre, and Play: Blacksmith Praise at Tuareg Marriage, Journal of American Folklore 110(435):3-27.
- 1997b Gender and Health Care: The Case of Tuareg Women in Niger. In Issues and Perspectives on Health Care in Sub-Saharan Africa, eds. Ezekiel Kalipeni and Phillip Thiuri, Lewiston: The Edwin Mellen Press, Chapter 5, pp. 115-143.

- 1996a Tuareg Tent as Field Space and Cultural Symbol, Anthropological Quarterly, vol. 69, no.1, pp.14-27.
- 1996b Matters of Taste: Food, Eating, and Reflections on “the Body Politic” in Tuareg Society, Journal of Anthropological Research, vol. 52, pp.61-83.
- 1995a Art As Process and Product: Patronage and Change in Tuareg Smith/Artisan Roles, Africa: Journal of International African Institute, 60(4):592-610.
- 1995b Zarraf, A Tuareg Women’s Wedding Dance, Ethnology, 34(1):1-16.
- 1994 a Female Sexuality, Social Reproduction, and Medical Intervention: Kel Ewey Tuareg Perspectives, Culture, Medicine, and Psychiatry, vol. 18:433-462.
- 1994b The Poetics of Childhood and Politics of Resistance in Tuareg Society, Ethos 22(3):343-372.
- 1994c The Head Dance, Contested Self, and Art as a Balancing Act in Female Possession among the Tuareg, Africa: Journal of the International African Institute, 64(1):74-98.
- 1993a Creativity, Conflict, and Power: The Art of Possession among the Tuareg, Journal of Anthropology and Humanism 18(1):21-30.
- 1993b Speech By Allusion: Voice and Authority in Tuareg Verbal Art, Journal of Folklore Research 29(2):155-75.
- 1993c Joking in Researcher-Resident Dialogue: Ethnography of Hierarchy among Tuareg, Anthropological Quarterly, October.
- 1992a Reflections on Tamazaj, Culture, Medicine, and Psychiatry 64(1):30-47.
- 1992b Disputed Boundaries: Tuareg Discourse on Class and Ethnicity, Ethnology.
- 1992c Ritual Specialists, Ambiguity, and Power in Tuareg Society, Man: Journal of the Royal Anthropological Institute 27(1):105-128.
- 1991a Lack of Prayer: Ritual Restrictions, Social Experience, and the Anthropology of Menstruation among the Tuareg, American Ethnologist 18(4):751-769.
- 1991b Veiled Self, Transparent Meanings: Tuareg Headdress as Social Expression, Ethnology 30(2):101-117.
- 1991c Modes of Persuasion: Gossip, Song, and Divination in Tuareg Conflict Resolution, Anthropological Quarterly 64(1):30-47.
- 1990 Ownership at Issue: Myths of Separation and Metaphors of Manipulation among the Kel Ewey Tuareg, The American Journal of Semiotics, vol. 7, no. 4, 83-108.
- 1989 Accounting For Belief: Causation, Misfortune, and Concepts of Evil in Tuareg Systems of Thought, Man: Journal of the Royal Anthropological Institute, 5(24), 124-144.
- 1988 Negotiating Tuareg Identity, Journal of the Association of Third World Studies, Georgia, Fall.
- 1987 Interpreting Androgynous Woman, Ethnology, January.

(Chapters in peer-reviewed reference volumes)

- 2005a The Tuareg Diaspora, for HRAF Encyclopedia of Diasporas, eds. Carol and Melvin Ember
- 2005b (Series of four articles): Air, Sultanate of; Sahara: Peoples of the Desert; Takedda and the Trans-Saharan Trade; Raiders, Traders, and the Empires of Mali and Songhay, in Encyclopedia of African History, ed. Kevin Shillington, London: Fitzroy Dearborn Publishers.
- 2005c Magic (Power) and Shamanism (Critical topical/theoretical overview article), eds., Karna Hughes and Mariko Walter, Shamanism, ABC-CLIO
- 2004a Tuareg Health-Care and Healing Systems, in HRAF Encyclopedia of Medical Anthropology, editors Carol and Melvin Ember

- 2004b Spirit Possession: Tuareg and Songhay; Tuareg; and the Performance of Prose Narratives. In African Folklore: An Encyclopedia, eds. Philip M. Peek and Kwesi Yankah, Routledge Press.
- 2002 Tamajaq-Speakers as an Endangered Culture. In edited volume, Endangered Peoples of Africa and the Middle East: Struggles to Survive and Thrive. (Endangered Peoples of the World Series), eds. Robert Hitchcock and Alan Osborn, Westport, CT: Greenwood Press, pp. 235-357.
- 2001 Niger, chapter. In Countries and Their Cultures, eds. Melvin and Carol Ember, New York: MacMillan Reference USA
- 1999 Tuareg Matrilineal Myths. In Traditional Storytelling Today: An International Encyclopedia, Garland Press.
- 1997a African Myth and Cosmology, (critical overview article), Scribner Encyclopedia of African South of the Sahara, ed. John Middleton, vol. 3, pp. 250-258, MacMillan (Simon and Schuster), October.
- 1997b The Tuareg, Eastwood Encyclopedia of Cultures and Daily Life.
- 1996 The Tuareg, HRAF Encyclopedia of World Cultures, eds. David Levinson, John Middleton, and Amal Rassam, vol. IX, pp.366-69.
- 1990 Toward a Poetics of Aging, Semiotics and Symbolicity, Semiotics Society of America, 383-391.
- 1985 Gender in a System of Hierarchical Class relations in a Tuareg Caravanning Village, Proceedings, Third World Conference Foundation, Chicago, April.

Accepted Works, in press production:

(Articles and chapters in peer-reviewed, refereed journals and books)

Performing Culture: A Tuareg Artisan As Cultural Interpreter, Ethnology

Afflictions of the Heart and Soul, critical overview of spirit possession, chapter in A Companion to African Religion, volume edited by Elias Bongmba, Wiley-Blackwell, Oxford Press.

What is a Song? Transformations in Tuareg Women's Tende-Singing Over Time and the Problem of Feminist Voice, and also selected texts of songs. In Women's Songs in the Sahel, (In 2 volumes: one anthology volume, one essay volume, with audioCD's), eds. Thomas A. Hale and Aissata Sidikou, Bloomington: Indiana University Press.

Reviews

- 2011 review of article manuscript on Fulbe smallstock exchanges, Ethnology
- 2010 review of article manuscript, in first and second drafts, "Identity construction and Intergenerational Relations in a Migratory Context: The Case of Young Women of Maghribine Origin in France," Culture and Psychology
- review of article manuscript "Tuareg Rebellions," African Studies Review
- review of revision of article manuscript "How Can Lukoho Be His Own Grandfather?" Journal of the Royal Anthropological Institute
- review of article manuscript "West African Women and the French Colonial Army," International Journal of African Historical Studies
- promotion on cover of book, Summoning the Spirits, ed. Andrew Dawson, London: I.B. Tauris Publishers
- 2009 review of article manuscript "Creating the Self: Journeys of Late Mid-Life Women," Journal of Women and Aging
- review of article manuscript "Theoretical Model of Positive Mental Health for Individuals of African-American Descent," (revised version), Culture & Psychology

- review of article manuscript “How Can Lukoho Be His Own Grandfather?” Journal of the Royal Anthropological Institute
- review of article manuscript, “Contestations over ‘Tradition’ and ‘Culture’ in a Time of AIDS,” two draft versions, including revisions, Medical Anthropology
- review of article manuscript, “Ethnography of Poetics in Performance,” Journal of Linguistic Anthropology
- review of article manuscript, “The Blood Stain: Spirit Possession, Menstruation, and Transgression in Niger,” Ethnos
- 2008 review of article manuscript, “Theoretical Model of Positive Mental Health for Individuals of African Descent,” two draft versions, including 2009 revisions, Culture and Psychology
- review of article manuscript, “The Life, Death, and Rebirth of a Mapuche Shaman: Remembering, Forgetting, and the Willful Transformation of Memory,” Journal of Anthropological Research
- review of article manuscript, “Characterizing Acculturation Phenomena: Intentional States and Recommendations for change in Acculturation Psychology,” Journal of Acculturation Psychology
- review of article manuscript, “From Hegemony to Polemic in Healing in Congo, Brazzaville,” Culture and Psychology
- review of article manuscript, “Indigenous Psychology, Westernized Psychology, and Indigenized Psychology: A Non-Western Psychologist’s View,” Culture and Psychology
- review of revised article manuscript, “Blood and Ink,” Journal of Anthropological Research
- review of article manuscript, “Flow,” Current Anthropology
- 2007 review of article manuscript, “Blood and Ink: Treatment Practices of Traditional Palestinian Women Healers in Israel,” Journal of Anthropological Research
- review of book manuscript, Haunted by the Archaic Shaman: Himalayan Jhakris and the Discourse on Shamanism. Northern Illinois University Press
- review of article manuscript, “‘Female Sexuality in Ngwa Women’s Erotic Poetry,” Current Anthropology
- book review, Worldview, the Orishas, and Santeria: Africa to Cuba and Beyond, by Mercedes Cros Sandoval, American Anthropologist
- review of article manuscript, “Sameness, Otherness: Wodaabe Ethnicity and Gendered Modernities,” Journal of the Royal Anthropological Institute
- review of Prospectus for book manuscript, Start Making Sense of Language, Oxford University Press
- 2006 review of article manuscript, “Academy of Independent Scholars,” The International Journal of the Humanities
- review of article manuscript, “Kissing Cousins: Consanguineous Marriage and Early Mortality in a Reproductive Isolate,” Current Anthropology
- review of article manuscript “Mizrahi Subaltern Counterpoints,” Anthropological Quarterly
- review of article manuscript, “Italian-Australian Attitudes toward Occult Foecal Examinations and Cancer,” Culture and Psychology
- review of article manuscript, “Contesting the Future: The Case of Traditional Arab Women Healers in Israel,” Current Anthropology
- 2005 review of article manuscript, “Sorcellerie et culte des saints au Maghreb,” Current Anthropology
- review of article manuscript, “Fengshui Schema,” Culture and Psychology
- review of article manuscript, “Culture, Gender, and the Influence of Social Change Amongst Emirati Families in the United Arab Emirates,” Journal of Anthropological Research
- review of book in preparation for revision, Language, Culture, and Communication, fourth edition, by Nancy Bonvillain, Prentice Hall
- review of book in preparation for revision, Anthropological Theory: An Introductory History, third edition, eds. Jon McGee and Richard Warms, McGraw Hill
- article manuscript, “Adapting to a New Culture: Valuation Research of Iranian Migrants in the Netherlands,” Culture and Psychology

- article manuscript, "Changing Idioms of Shame: Expressions of Disgrace and Dishonour in the Narratives of Turkish Women Living in Denmark," Culture and Psychology
- article manuscript on "Making 'White' Nomads: Touareg and Arab Discourses of 'Race' in Colonial Northern Mali, 1893-1940, Africa Today
- 2004 book review, Blood and Voice: Navajo Women Ceremonial Practitioners, by Maureen Trudelle Schwartz, Journal of the Royal Anthropological Institute
- 2003 article manuscript on "The New Nigerian Hausa Diaspora in the US: Surviving and Building Community on the Margins of the Global Economy," City and Society
- article manuscript on "Essential Others: Anthropology of the Return of the Old Savage," Current Anthropology
- article manuscript on "Wailing Culture: A Test Case of Social Strategies", Current Anthropology
- article manuscript on "Creating Modernities Through Conversation Groups: The Everyday Worlds of Hausa Migrants in Niamey, Niger," African Studies Review
- article manuscript on "The English Expressions 'good boy' and 'good girl' and Cultural Models of Child Rearing," Culture and Psychology
- article manuscript on "Rethinking Shamanic States of Consciousness: Mapuche Personhood, Possession and Ecstatic Travel," Journal of Anthropological Research
- article manuscript on "Core versus Periphery: Understanding the Emics of Hindu Indian Womanhood," Culture and Psychology
- 2002 article manuscript on 'The Paradox of "African Psychology"', Culture and Psychology
- book review, Colonial and Post-Colonial Memories: The Legend of the Kahena, A North African Heroine, by Abdelmajid Hannoum, Heinemann: Portsmouth, NH, Journal of Anthropological Research
- 2001 book review, Healing Powers and Modernity: Traditional Medicine, Shamanism, and Science in Asian Societies, eds. Linda Connor and Geoffrey Samuel, Westport, Ct: Bergin & Garvey, Journal of African and Asian Studies.
- article manuscript on "Love and Sex in the Life of Elderly Ghanaian women," Anthropological Quarterly
- article manuscript on Sociogenesis, Activity, and Ontogeny, Culture and Psychology
- book review, Griots and Griottes by Thomas A. Hale, Bloomington: Indiana University Press, Comparative Literature Review.
- 2000 article manuscript on "Love and Death and Attitudes Toward Livestock: Suri sacrifice," Anthropological Quarterly
- article manuscript, The Father's Friend, Anthropology Today (London, RAI)
- book review, Gens de Parole: Langage, poesie et politique en pays touareg, by Dominique Casajus, American Ethnologist
- Marital Disputes among Urban Chinese Couples, article manuscript, Culture and Psychology
- 1999 Wondrous Healing, book manuscript, Northern Illinois University Press
- Ordinary Women, Extraordinary Roles, article manuscript, American Ethnologist
- 1998 Victims of Progress, latest edition book manuscript, Mayfield Press
- When Men Are Women: Opposition and Ambivalence among Gabra Nomads of East Africa, book manuscript, University of Wisconsin Press
- The Healing Strategies of Neo-Herbalists in (Tema), Ghana, article manuscript, Journal of Anthropological Research
- On the Subject of History, article manuscript, American Ethnologist
- Artisans, Expatriates, and the Culture Market, article manuscript, American Anthropologist
- 1997 Life in a Southwest Prison, book manuscript, Mayfield Press
- Spanish Balconies in Morocco, article manuscript, Urban Anthropology
- The Predicament of Dress, article manuscript for American Ethnologist

The Almajira, manuscript, Social Science and Medicine
 book review, The Berbers, by Elizabeth Fentress and Michael Brett, American Anthropologist
 textbook manuscript, Cultural Anthropology, 2nd Edition, by Lavenda and Schultz, Mayfield Press

1996 manuscript on widows and mortuary rituals, Anthropological Quarterly

1995 book review, Poesies et chants Touaregs de l'Ayr, by Moussa Albaka and Dominique Casajus, American Ethnologist

manuscript on Kel Faday spirit possession, American Ethnologist

1994 Modernism and its Malcontents, eds. Jean and John Comaroff, Ethnohistory

book review, book manuscript on American kinship, State University of New York Press

manuscript on Nigerian mothers' perceptions of children's respiratory diseases, Social Science and Medicine

1993-94 manuscripts on Moorish women's health and Samoan possession cults, both for American Ethnologist

manuscript on impact of cash economy on gender among Sidama of Ethiopia, Anthropological Quarterly

1992-94 textbook manuscripts, Cultural Anthropology, Phillip Kottak (6th and 7th Editions), College Division, McGraw-Hill, Inc.

1992 book review, Dudal, on Wodaabe (Peul) pastoralists, American Ethnologist

1991 manuscript on Creole and literacy in Granada, Anthropological Quarterly

1990 manuscript on Pokot women's belt adornment and moral/political destiny among Pokot of East Africa, American Ethnologist

1989 book review, The Python Killer, by Grotinelli, Journal of Third World Studies

manuscript on fertility among nomadic and sedentary Turkana of East Africa, American Anthropologist

1988 book manuscript on Ubakala Igbo dance-plays, University of Florida Social Sciences Monograph Series

manuscript, selected chapters on Africa and Middle East, for textbook Our World

Works in Progress and/or Review:

(Two book manuscripts)

Witches, Neighbors, Strangers, and Culture Heroes: Ritual Powers of Smith/Artisans in Tuareg Society and Beyond (completed, and currently in review at academic press); and

Courageous Notables: Remembering and Forgetting in Modern Tamajaq (Tuareg) Theatrical Performance in a Northern Malian Town (currently in progress)

(Articles and chapters)

The Spiritual Significance of Dreaming among the Tuareg

Changing Concepts of Modesty, Reserve, and Respect in Tuareg and Neighboring Saharan Societies

Constructing Moral Personhood: The Moral Test

'Inaden Nena (Our Smiths):' Aesthetics, Ritual, and Sociability of Smith/Artisans in Agadez and rural Air

Tuareg and Kabyle Spirit Dreaming and Religious Authority in Saharan and Expatriate Communities:

Comparative Perspectives Across Amazigh (Berber) Cultural Borders

Dreaming, Religion, and Authoritative Knowledge in a Soul Dream

The Problem of Interpreting Tangalt (Metaphor), Subjectivity, and Creativity in Tuareg Experience:

Shadowy Speech, and Ambiguity in Waking and Sleeping Life

Urban Influences upon Female Bodily Aesthetics in a Multi-Ethnic Northern Malian Town
 A Little to One Side: Social Death and Age
 Turning the Ethnographic Tables: Reflections on Collaborative Knowledge and Reciprocal Ethnographic Heroism
 The World Turned Upside-Down: Constructions of Adolescence in Peacekeeping Efforts in a Northern Malian Town
 Images of Aging, the Aged, and Intergenerational Relationships in modern urban Tamajaq Plays
 Word, Deed, and Glance: Local Tuareg Togerchet Power and Cross-Cultural Approximations
 Images of Healing in the Poetry of a Tuareg Exile
 Between a Rock and a Hard Place: An Ethnographic Conflict Juxtaposed against Local Folkloric Dilemma Tales
 Soaring Planes and Shifting Sands: The Appeal of Saint-Exupery's Le Petit Prince Across Cultural Borders

Conference Presentations, Round Tables, and University Lectures

- Conference Presentations and Round Tables:
- 2011 Inaden Nena (Nos Artisans): Les Rapports entre les arts et la sociabilite dans les roles des artisans chez les Touaregs a Agadez et en milieu rural au Niger, Saharan Crossroads Conference, Niamey, Niger, July;
 The Woman Who Did Not Become Possessed, Symposium on Approaches to the Qur'an in Sub-Saharan Africa, Toronto, York University and Textile Museum, May;
 An Ambiguous Female Spirit, Society for Psychological Anthropology, Santa Monica, Ca., April
- 2010 Gender, Religion, and Authoritative Knowledge in Tuareg Spirit-Themed Dreams, Divination, and Psychotherapy, American Anthropological Association, New Orleans, November
- 2009 Tea and Empathy, American Anthropological Association, Philadelphia, December
 Images of Youth in Urban Tamajaq Plays, African Studies Association, New Orleans, November
 Fat Battles, Urban Health and Anthropology conference/symposium, University of Houston, Houston, March
- 2008 How Collaborative Is Collaboration in Ethnography? American Anthropological Association, San Francisco, November
 At the Crossroads of Local, National, and Global Aesthetics in Malian Tamajaq (Tuareg) Theater, African Studies Association, Chicago, November
 The Slippery Sign, Semiotic Society of America, Houston, October
 Acting As Heroic, conference on War and Conflict in Africa, University of Texas-Austin, Austin, March
- 2007 The Tamajaq Concept of Al Hima, American Anthropological Association, Washington D.C., November
 Richly-Textured Meanings in Tuareg Women's Dress and Coverings, Symposium on the Art of Being Tuareg, Gerald and Iris B. Cantor Arts Center, Stanford University, Palo Alto, California, June
 I Feel Your Pain, Society for Psychological Anthropology, Manhattan Beach, California, March
- 2006 Anthropological Knowledge and Local Cultural Theory, International Conference on New Directions in the Humanities, University of 7th of November at Tunis and Carthage, Tunisia, July
- 2005 The Significance of Touch in Tuareg Herbal Medicine Women's Healing, African Health and Illness Conference, University of Texas, Austin, March
 Changing Idioms of the Body and "Fatness" in Gendered Medical and Aesthetic Discourse and Practice among the Tuareg, African Studies Association, Washington D.C., November
 Whose Science? Whose Medicine? American Anthropological Association, Washington D.C., December
- 2004 Are African Smiths "Witches"? African Studies Association, Boston, November

Verbal Art Performance, Cultural Memory, and the Tuareg Diaspora, International Oral History Association, Rome, Italy, June

2003 Tuareg Guitar: Rebellion and Post-Rebellion, African Studies Association, Boston, October
 Spirit Pacts and Peace Pacts: Tuareg Mediumistic Healers in Peace and Conflict, American Anthropological Association, Chicago, November
 Love, Marriage and Other Arrangements: Aging, Gender, and “Romance” in Changing Tuareg Society, International Council of Ethnological and Anthropological Sciences, Florence, Italy, July
 Remembering and Forgetting: Urban Commemorations of Mano Dayak, a Post-Rebellion Cultural Mnemonic and Mediator, Conference on African Urban Spaces, University of Texas at Austin, March
 What is a Song? Changing Themes in Tuareg Women’s Tende Music, (Invited) Conference on Women’s Songs in the Sahel, Princeton University, Princeton, NJ, May

2002 Tuareg Discourses on Gender and Development, African Studies Association, African Studies Association, Washington D.C.
 Islam and the Cultural Construction of Gender: Tuareg Interpretations, at Research Colloquium on “Religion Revealed in Africa: Islam and Christianity,” (Invited), Brigham Young University, Provo, Utah

2001 Those Who Wait: Labor Migration and Gendered Spaces, American Anthropological Association
 Anthropologist as Host, Research Subjects as Guests, and Culture as Situated Practice, African Studies Association, Houston

2000 Sacrifice and Anthropologist As Translator, American Anthropological Association
 Smith/Artisan Women’s Songs, African Studies Association
 Les Voyages des artisans Touaregs, IREMAM (l’Institut de Recherches et d’Etudes sur le Monde Arabe et Musulman), Universite de Marseille/Aix, (Invited) symposium “round-table,” Aix-en-Provence, France

1999 Parallel and Divergent Landscapes, African Studies Conference
 The Spirit of the Gift in Tuareg Mortuary Rites, American Anthropological Association
 Natural Terrain as Social Witness: Toward a Topography of Spirit Songs, Cornell University
 (Invited) Symposium “round-table”

1998 Tuareg Herbalists, Gender, and Islam, African Studies Association
 Youth, Age, and Gender in Tuareg Ritual and Symbol, American Anthropological Association

1997 Servility in Living Memory: Life History and Myth and Problems of Ethnographic Representation of the Tuareg Cultural Predicament, African Studies Association
 Afflictions of the Stomach, American Anthropological Association
Techawait and Issues of Ritual and Emotion, Conference on Holiday, Ritual, Festival, and Celebration, Bowling Green University, Ohio

1996 Making Better “Scents” in Anthropology, American Ethnological Society
 Situating the Person in Tuareg Divination and Psychotherapy, African Studies Association

1995 Women in the Tent and At the Crossroads, American Anthropological Association
Tebategh: A Tuareg Smith Woman’s Dance, African Studies Association

1994 Tent as Topos and Trope, American Anthropological Association
 The Cultural Construction of Menopause, African Studies Association

1993 Tuareg Myths of Travel, American Anthropological Association
 The Tuareg Child, African Studies Association

1992 Medical Intervention and Tuareg Women, African Studies Association
 The “Body Politic” in Northern Niger, American Anthropological Association

- 1991 The Thread-Bare Cloak of Nobility, American Anthropological Association
Rethinking the Ethnographic "Other," African Studies Association
- 1990 Toward a Poetics of Aging, Semiotic Society of America
Themes of Knowledge, Deception, and Truth in Tuareg Verbal Art Tales, African Studies Association
The Significance of the Head Dance in Female Spirit Possession among the Tuareg, American Anthropological Association
- 1989 The Ordinary and Extraordinary in Health and Healing among the Nigerien Tuareg, African Studies Association
Veiled Self, Transparent meanings, American Anthropological Association
- 1988 Invocation of Sacred and Secular Powers in Tuareg Disputes, Association of Third World Studies
Tuareg Women and Islam: The Problem of Ritual Restrictions and Social Experience, Southeast Regional Middle Eastern and Islamic Studies Seminar
Tuareg Smithing in Rural and Urban Settings, African Studies Association
- 1987 Jewelry and Gender Typifications in Tuareg Ritual and Cosmology, African Studies Association
Which Witch? American Anthropological Association
Ritual and Social Violence at Bianco, 13th Annual Third World Conference
Disorder or Design? Central States Anthropological Society
- 1986 Notions of Other in Images of Distance, Concealment and Marginality in Tuareg Society, African Studies Association
- 1985 Joking in Tuareg Possession, African Studies Association
Female Aging and Personhood Among the Kel Ewey Tuareg, American Anthropological Association
Female Bases of Power in a Tuareg Caravanning Community, 11th Annual Third World Conference

University Lectures (Invited) :

- 2010 "Concepts of 'Race,' Ethnicity, Class, and Gender: Contemporary Cultural Anthropological Perspectives," undergraduate class in Introduction to Physical Anthropology, for Professor Janice Hutchinson, University of Houston, Spring Semester

"Re-Sculpting Body Politics in Anthropology," Department of Anthropology Research Colloquium Series, University of Kentucky, Lexington, Kentucky
- 2009, 2008, 2006, 2005, 2000, 1999 Personal Life History in Anthropological Methods, graduate seminar in Methodology, University of Houston, Spring Semester
- 2005 Ritual Healing and Spirit Possession as Therapy, guest lecture in Honors College, Medicine and Society course, University of Houston, Fall Semester
- 2004 Disputed Protection and Shattered Boundaries, Anthropology Forum Lecture Series, Department of Anthropology, University of Houston
- 2003 Circulating Power, Department of Anthropology Research Colloquium Series, University of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois, October
- 2001 Approaches to Linguistic Analysis in Anthropology, for intermediate-level undergraduate Methods class, University of Houston

- 1999 Paradigms Lost: The Challenge of New Directions in Post-Structural and Post-Modern Anthropology, Parts I and II, for two televised History of Culture Theory classes, University of Houston educational TV, Houston, October
 Medicine, Indigenous Rights, and Cultural Survival, for Anthropology and Human Rights class, University of Houston-Clear-Lake, Fall Semester
- 1998 Tuareg Herbal Medicine Women, Gender, and Islam, Anthropology Forum, University of Houston
- 1997 Ethnographic Film and Representation, Anthropology Forum Panel, University of Houston
 Matrilineal Myths and Herbal Healing among the Tuareg, Gender and Development class in School of Social Work, University of Houston
- 1996 Concept of Person in Tuareg Divination, seminar on Concepts of Person, University of Houston
- 1995 The Cultural Construction of Menopause, gender and development class, University of Houston
- 1994 Women's Health Care in Niger, University of Houston
- 1993,1994 African Women and Genital Surgery, African Economic Development class, University of Houston
 The Politics of Medicine in Niger, gender and development class, University of Houston
- 1992 Anthropological Theories on Female Spirit Possession and a Tuareg Case, panel, Anthropological Perspectives on Women, Women's Studies Center, University of Houston
 Recreating Tuareg Possession Aesthetics, graduate seminar on hermeneutics, Rice University
 Why Tuareg Women Hide Illnesses, University of Houston
 Play in Resident-Researcher Dialogue: The Problem of Ethnographic Realism and the Role of Anthropologist in Class Relationships in the Field, Lecture Series, Rice University
- 1991 Works of Paul Stoller, Reflexivity in Ethnographic Analysis, and Niger, University of Houston
- 1990 A Comparison of Tuareg Men's and Women's Headdress, Anthropology Forum Series, University of Houston
 Child Survival in Africa, University of Houston
 Aesthetic Code, Artistic Form, and Assertion of Social Power in Tuareg Possession, Fellows Series Anthropology Seminars, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C.
- 1989 Tuareg Headdress as Social Expression, Johns Hopkins University
- 1988 Martyrs and Scapegoats: Tuareg Concepts of Personal Destiny, University of Florida
 Our Women Are Princesses: Gender Roles, Class, and Socioeconomic Change in a Tuareg Caravanning Village, University of Florida
 Education, Ethnicity, and Politics in Africa, University of Florida
 Tuareg Leatherwork, University of Florida
 Tuareg Women and Islam, University of Florida
- 1987 Smiths, Muslim Clergy and Islam in an African Society, University of Florida
 African Nationalism: Historical and Comparative Perspectives, Georgia Southwestern College
 Possession, Madness, and Creativity, University of Florida
- 1986 Aesthetic Aspects of Possession, Indiana University
- 1985 Tuareg Social Organization, Indiana University Southeast
- 1984 Spirit Possession: A Polysemic Approach, Indiana University

1982 Female Aging among the Tuareg of Niger, Indiana University

Panels Chaired, Organized, and/or Moderated as Discussant

- 2009 Panel on Gender, Age, and the Urban Body, Symposium/Conference on Urban Health and Anthropology, University of Houston, March
- 2008 Panel on Collaborative Research, American Anthropological Association, San Francisco, November
Panel on Writing Gender, War, and Gender Wars, conference on War and Conflict in Africa, University of Texas, Austin, March
- 2007 Ritual, History, and Politics panel, American Anthropological Association, Washington D.C., November
- 2005 Gender, Aesthetics, Beauty, the Body-themed panel, African Studies Association, Washington D.C., November
- 2003 Popular Music as Political Discourse in Francophone Africa and the Diaspora panel, African Studies Association, Boston
Oral Traditions in Africa panel, Rice University, October
Whose Peace, Whose Justice? Cultural Models of Conflict and Cooperation, American Anthropological Association, Chicago
- 2001 Cameroon and African Religions, Rice University, Houston, April
- 2000 Issues in Representing Islam, (2-part panel), American Anthropological Association, San Francisco
- 1997 Rites of Passage, Conference on Holidays, Ritual, and Festival, Bowling Green University
- 1993 Critical Cultural Studies, Method, and Discipline, University of Houston
- 1991 Ethnic Identity in Changing Times, American Anthropological Association
- 1989 Problems in African Development, Conference on Minority Administrators
- 1988 The Food Problem in Africa, World Food Day
Religion and Politics, Third World Association Conference
Teaching About Africa, National Council of Social Studies

Exhibits

- October 2003 round-table and advice regarding art museum exhibit “The Art of Being Tuareg”, directed by Thomas K. Seligman, Director, Iris and B. Gerald Cantor Center for Visual Arts, Stanford University, Palo Alto, Ca.
- April 2000 (in collaboration with visiting Tuareg smith/artisan), Tuareg Art Objects, Houston International Festival
- 1987 Tuareg Leatherwork and Jewelry: Socio-Religious Meanings, International Festival, Florida State Museum

Workshops, Symposia, and Institutes

- 2008 Religion and Culture in Africa, Teach Africa Educators, for World Affairs Council, Texas Southern University, Houston, October, contact person: Elizabeth Ferruelo
- 2007 Symposium on The Art of Being Tuareg, presentation on dress, Stanford University, June
- 2003 Pre-Performance Public Forum panel for Tartit Musical Ensemble from Mali, on Political History of Tuareg, April, University of Washington, Seattle
- 2002 Feminist Theories and Methods in Anthropology, Women’s Studies Program, Spring Semester, University of Houston
- 1997 Nigeria, Cultural Orientation, Worldwide, Houston
- 1996 Niger, Cultural Orientation, Worldwide
- 1992 Keynote Presentation/Introduction, African Humanities Workshop, Rice University, Houston
- 1989 African Archeological Prehistory, Gainesville
Food in Africa
- 1988 Materials and Methods: Africa in the Schools, Florida Council for the Social Studies
African Arts and Humanities in Social Context
- 1987 Africa: Stereotypes vs. Realities, Gainesville

Challenges in Teaching about Africa to American Students, Florida Council for the Social Studies

Language Proficiencies

French: speak, understand, read, write (fluent)

Spanish: speak, understand, read, write (fluent)

Tamajaq: speak, understand (good)

Hausa: speak, understand (good)

Service: Synergistic and Volunteer Activities, Linkages, Academic and/or Community

- 2011 and ongoing: Advice to National Geographic concerning article "Lords of the Sahara," contact person: Julie Beer
Pro Bono asylum case, provided cultural data for Jessica Jones, Pittsburgh, Pa
- 2010 Departmental and College-level meetings regarding curriculum, University of Houston
Evaluated candidates for fellowships, Women's Studies, University of Houston, Summer
Current and/or ongoing: October 2010 Advice to National Geographic regarding their article on Islamic scholars
Letter-writing for international human rights organization and occasionally, its local meetings and other related activities in Houston
April 2010 Volunteer for Amnesty International at Houston International Festival, contact person: Bill Ohsie
Summer 2010 Jury Summons in Houston
Evaluation of tenure file of professor in anthropology department at an outside university
- 2008-09 "Graffit-e," University of Houston, interview on CLASS online news program, March 2009, contact person: Dr. Powell, Communications
Evaluation of file for promotion to rank of full professor of anthropologist at an outside university
Human Rights Show, "Niger," KPFT Pacifica Radio, Houston, February, 2009, contact person: Mary Newhouse
Wisconsin Public Radio program, "Here On Earth: Radio Without Borders," conferred with producer for segment on therapeutic uses of touch and extra-visual senses in healing. Contact: (Producer), Patrick Peczerski, December 2008
Informal conferring with Ms. Berman, Pennsylvania attorney, regarding asylum case
On departmental planning/organizing committee for conference on Urban Health and Anthropological Practice, throughout 2008; also organizes my panel on Gender, Age, and the Urban Body, symposium/conference event held March 6-7, 2009, at University of Houston
Advice to National Geographic concerning article on traditional and changing festivals in northern Niger, editor: Mary McPeck
Banquet Address, on topic of non-violent uses of verbal art to resolve conflicts, at conference on War and Conflict in Africa, University of Texas, Austin, March 2008, Contact person: Dr. Toyin Falola
Informal interview with Ms. Claire Spiegel Brian concerning resurgence of Tuareg Rebellion and human rights conditions in northern Niger
Assessment/evaluation of field research proposal and later, field report, for Austrian Science Fund, Humanities and Social Sciences, contact: Maria Weissenboeck, Vienna, Austria
On Committee for Teaching Awards, 2008, University of Houston College of Arts and Sciences, head: Sarah Fishman, Associate Dean
On Editorial Board of Women and Aging, editor: Dianne Garnett, Sarasota, Florida
On Editorial Board of Culture and Psychology, editor: Jaan Valsiner, Clark
University
Houston
On Advisory Board, Houston Teachers Institute, intermittently, University of
Houston
- 2007 Evaluated anthropology program in a department at an outside liberal arts college
Evaluated and made recommendations concerning tenure and promotion of professor at an outside university

Interview with reporter Mohammed Ikokey, University of Houston Daily Cougar newspaper for article, "Professor Pens Book," issue: Tuesday July 27, 2006

Advice to Ms. Catherine Phillips, BBC London, UK, re: television series portraying travel to communities in northern Niger

Human rights: Asylum case August 2007: responsibility: compiling anthropological data on gender, sexuality, health, and female genital surgery, and providing advice and legal affidavit source material in support of a woman seeking to escape female genital surgery, worked with attorney, Bernadette Thomas of Thomas & Thomas Attorneys At Law, Houston. Case in progress.

2006 Asylum case April 2006: responsibility: compiling anthropological data on gender, sexuality, health, and female genital surgery, and also providing advice and legal affidavit in support of woman seeking to escape female genital surgery; worked with YMCA Pro-Bono immigration issues attorney, Ms. Nichole Lillibridge, Houston. Case was won.

2005 Member of Steering Committee for establishing Medicine and Society minor at University of Houston, Chairs: Professors Andrew Achenbaum and William Monroe
Departmental Institutional Effectiveness Measures Report compilation

2004 On Advisory Board of Timbuktoo Heritage Institute, Director: Mr. Issa Mohammed, affiliated with Cultural Survival, Director: Larry Childs

Grant Rapporteur: Submitted assessment critical comments for evaluation of ESRC (Economic and Social Research Council), UK, end of award report on field research project in Ahaggar region of Algeria, submitted to contact, Ms. Amanda Williams, Evaluation Administrator for ESRC, UK, May 7

Jury duty in Houston

2003 Advice to Ms. Sommers, Brooklyn, NYC, regarding educational video programming for advocacy of indigenous peoples' environmental rights

Advice to National Geographic concerning alleged slavery in Mali

Cultural exchange: Helped bring musical ensemble from Mali to U.S.: Provided letter of recommendation to the Immigration and Naturalization Service for Ensemble Tartit, musicians from Mali, to obtain visa for United States tour sponsored by Alison Loerke; letter included discussion of the role of music in Tuareg culture and the importance of cultural exchange; this preceded my participation on Public Forum pre-performance panel on history, culture, the arts and Timbuktoo Heritage Institute in public forum held before Tartit performance at the University of Washington, Seattle, April 27

2001-03 On Anthropology Departmental sub-committee for evaluation of department chair
On Undergraduate Council
On Degree Sub-Committee, University of Houston

1999-2003 On departmental sub-committee to plan future of department and make recommendations

2002 Advice to National Geographic regarding project on women's wealth in Niger and Mali;
Human rights: Advice to legal organization regarding female genital surgery in Niger for asylum case
Jury duty in Houston

2001 Summer, Advice to National Geographic regarding Tuareg and Tubu and Saharan salt caravans
Spring, Reader of essays for Women's Studies scholarship competition, University of Houston
Advice to Houston Chronicle regarding Chinese Year of Dragon and zodiac
Advice to National Geographic regarding Wodaabe Fulani article

2000-2003 On Committee for Tenure and Promotion, College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences, University of Houston
(June) Reviewed and evaluated essays for Women's Studies Essay Contest, University of Houston

1999 Chair of departmental search committee for hiring candidates to fill two new faculty positions
 1999-2001 On University of Houston African American Studies Center core committee to plan Houston's hosting of the national African Studies Association annual conference in November 2001

On Grievance Committee, Dean's Office, College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences, University of Houston

1999 (in July and also in March, 2000) Cultural exchange: Guided visiting Tuareg smith/artisans (from community of my Niger field research), and acted as liaison in establishing local linkages of cultural exchange and commercial expansion of their jewelry markets in Houston area. This work involved the following activities: hosting them as guests in my home; coordinating social and business events; providing transportation for them around Houston area; introducing them and translating/interpreting for them (in French, Tamajaq, Hausa and English) and American merchants and museum personnel; and exhibiting and explaining the cultural context of their art. Also assisted them in contacts for their participation in the New York Black Expo Fair and in establishing future connections for their business here.

(in May) Reviewer board, Women's Studies scholarship and fellowship applications

1998,1999 Informal advice to National Geographic regarding articles and photographs on Central Sahara; Tuareg; and Brides of Sahara

1998,1999 Graduate and Professional Council, University of Houston

1998 Women's Issues, Anthropology of Gender, and Human Rights: An Uneasy Truce, lecture, Zonta Club (women's business association), April, Houston

1997-1999 Social Science Research Council Doctoral Dissertation Field Research Grants, reviewer board

1997 Reviewer board, NEH grant proposals, University of Houston

Houston Chronicle, advice, article on African religions

National Geographic, advice for article on "Brides of the Sahara"

1995-present Reviewer, PEER and RIG grant proposals, University of Houston

1994-1997 Curriculum Committee, University of Houston

1994 Jefferson Club, business association, slide/lecture, Anthropology: What it is and What Anthropologists Do, June, Houston

1994-1997 Dean's Honors Council, University of Houston

Carnegie Museum, Pittsburgh, advice, Saharan Dress

BBC Radio International Panel on Tuareg Rebellion

Houston International Festival, advice, Julie Payne

1993 Children in the Field, Anthropology Forum Brown Bag Lunch Seminars, University of Houston

Niger, slide/lecture presentation, Texas A&M University

Fieldwork, slide/lecture, University of Houston

University Without Walls, advising, Mabel MacDonald

Channel 13 TV News, interview, analysis of Davidian Cult

Human rights: Responsibility: advice to Pro Bono Public Defense Fund asylum case at Houston YMCA: provided anthropological data analysis on descent, ethnicity, and politics in Liberia, West Africa, to support case of political asylum sought by a refugee/expatriate man escaping civil war and genocide; ultimately, this case won and the refugee was granted asylum in USA

1992-95 Committee on Status of Women, University of Houston

1992 Alley Theater outreach, pre-production advice concerning performance of A Midsummer Night's Dream with African cultural elements

WTRH Radio, interview on cults and LeBaron case

1991 Texas Consortium on Aging and Gerontology, curriculum planning

1990-95 History and Culture Committee, Children's Museum of Houston

1990-91 EXCELL Mentors

1990 Traditional Healing Systems, introduced film, Anthropology Forum series

San Francisco Exploratorium, consultations for exhibit including Orientations in Sahara

1990 and 1992 Field Museum, Department of Anthropology, consultations for “Africa Project” exhibit and data base, Chicago

1989 Fulbright Hays Doctoral Fellowship candidate interviewing and evaluation, University of Florida

1988 Institute of International Studies, Stanford University, evaluated pamphlet “Development Decisions: Ghana’s Volta River Project”

Fine Arts Museum, advice on Tuareg arts, Thomas Seligman, San Francisco

Previous community service experience earlier in life: Headstart; Chicago State Hospital.

Currently, intermittent volunteer work for human rights organization: interests: anti-torture activism

Professional Associations and Other Memberships

American Anthropological Association

African Studies Association

American Ethological Association

Society of Psychological Anthropology

Museum of Natural Science (Houston)

Teaching Experience

Courses Have Taught and/or Teach:

Introduction to Anthropology

Introduction to Cultural Anthropology

Introduction to Linguistic Anthropology

Anthropology of Religion (undergraduate and graduate seminar-levels)

Cultures of Africa

Language and Cultural Cognition (intermediate undergraduate)

Anthropology of Aging and the Life Course

Theories of Culture (intermediate undergraduate core course)

Medical Anthropology

Graduate Seminar in Anthropological Theory

Graduate Seminar in Ethnographic Analysis

Graduate Seminar in Ethnology

Graduate Seminar in African Myth, Cosmology, and Symbolism

Graduate Seminar in Anthropology of Gender

Courses Can (and would like to) Teach in addition:

Anthropology and Human Rights

Psychological Anthropology

Symbolic Anthropology

Anthropology of the Arts

Social Organization: From Structure to Process, Practice, and Relations

Anthropology of Verbal Art Performance, Ritual, Festival, Holiday, Theatre, and Play

Graduate Seminar in Anthropology, History, and Memory, including Personal Life History Narratives

Graduate Seminar in Spirit Possession, Shamanism, and Mediumship in Healing

Graduate Seminar in Illness, Healing Systems, and Health-Care in Africa

Graduate Seminar in Rationality and Relativism Issues of Comparative Moral Systems: Anthropology of Evil, Sin, Taboo, Shame, Honor

Masters Committee Head/Chair for: Mary Lynne Hill, M.A., thesis on oral histories of female descendants at plantation site, currently teaching in San Antonio private college; Vicky Bradley (M.A. thesis on “magical words” concept applied to daycare center interactions, later earned Ph.D. at SUNY-Binghamton and taught as adjunct lecturer at University of Houston); Barbara Rodriguez, M.A., thesis on gender, ethnicity and education; Charlotte Mueller Haney (M.A., thesis on home birth experiences in

women who suffered abuse as children, later admitted to Ph.D. program at Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, where currently conducting fieldwork); Toni Hill-Kennedy (M.A., thesis on social uses of proverbs among African-Americans in Texas, and is currently teaching in Fort Bend school system); Tim Landry (M.A., thesis on Haitian voodoo, later admitted to Ph.D. program at University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana, received Wenner-Gren grant to conduct his field research in Benin); Anna Stephenson (M.A., thesis on Gulen Islamic religious movement, in Turkey and among Turkish expatriates in U.S.); Kara Cloud (M.A., thesis on folklore gatherings, nationhood, and performance in Scotland; now working in aid organization); Shaleen Miller (M.A., thesis on midwives in Houston); Michael Guillot (M.A. thesis on controversies and discourses surrounding dam construction in Belize); Hulya Ozcan (M.A., thesis on Turkish-American women's dress and identity, later admitted to Ph.D. program in Anthropology at Texas A&M University); Carminia Martinez (thesis field research in progress on Mayan religious movement in Yucutan); Eileen Shriver, Daria Dykes, Matthew Avery

Masters thesis Committee member for: Joyce Meadows Holman; Steven McBay; Richard Williams; David Bruner; Jorge Garcia-Herrerros; Jose Martinez (M.A., later admitted the Ph.D. program at University of Texas at Austin); Barbara Nippress; Irene Ketonen (M.A., thesis on Sri Lankan immigrants in Finland, later admitted to Ph.D. program at SUNY)

Outside "reader" on M.A. and/or Ph.D. committees for: Karen Saylor; Les Odom; Malcolm Williams; Linda Boyd; Lee Winnifred; Moranne Aaron-Berel; Tamara Cobb; Alfonso Lopez

Independent Readings Study/Special Problems/Practicum for: Jill Sparks; Lorna Pyrtle; Jennifer Rambo; Kara Cloud; Melissa Lozano; Michael Guillot; Daria Dykes

Honors thesis Committee member for: Tina Lee, Mary McGilrith; David Bruner; Will Groves; Kaylene Williams

Honors thesis Committee chair for Houtan Martinez; Zohra Ismail; Ellen Thomas

References Available upon request