

BRANDY THOMAS WELLS

Oklahoma State University
Department of History
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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Oklahoma State University, 2018-present
Stillwater, Oklahoma
Assistant Professor, Department of History
Core Faculty: Africana Studies
Affiliated Faculty: American Studies | Gender and Women's Studies

Augusta University, 2016-2018
Augusta, Georgia
Assistant Professor, Department of History, Anthropology, and Philosophy
Affiliated Faculty, Women's and Gender Studies Program

EDUCATION

Ph.D., History, 2015, The Ohio State University
Dissertation: "She Pieced and Stitched and Quilted, Never Wavering nor Doubting": A Historical Tapestry of African American Women's Internationalism, 1890s-1960s
Adviser: Stephanie J. Shaw

M.A., History, 2011, The Ohio State University

B.A, History, 2008, Paine College
Salutatorian, Summa Cum Laude, Full Ride Scholarship
Alpha Kappa Mu Honor Society

PUBLICATIONS & RESEARCH

Forthcoming

"I think of myself as an International Citizen: Flemma P. Kittrell's Internationalist ideology," in *Ideology and U.S. Foreign Policy: New Histories*, eds. Christopher McKnight Nichols, David Milne eds. (Columbia University Press, August 2022).

"No Less Brave, No Less a Pioneer: Susie Wiseman Yergan and the Unity Home-Makers' Club in South Africa," *Journal of African American History* 107, No. 4 (Fall 2022).

Under Review

The World is Going to Hear From Us: Black Women's Global Freedom Struggle, 1896-1965, Book Manuscript.

"Nothing Has Been Lost in South Africa": Sibusisiwe Makhanya and the American Podium," in *Usual Suspects: Black Women and Radical Politics in the United States and South Africa in the Twentieth Century*, eds. Dawne Curry and Holly McGee (under contract, University of Illinois Press).

In Progress

"And the Curtain Rises on The Drama": The National Council of Negro Women & The Tragedy of the United Nations," under review in *Journal of Civil Rights and Human Rights* (Revise and Resubmit).

"The People-To-People Program and the National Council of Negro Women's International Agenda," in *Rethinking U.S. World Power: Domestic Histories of U.S. Foreign Policy*, eds. Daniel Bessner and Michael Brenes (under contract, Palgrave Press).

"Live Peaceably with All Men: African American Women's Activism for Peace, Prosperity, and Parity," *Women and Inequality in a Changing World: Exploring New Paradigms for Peace* (under contract, Routledge, Gender in a Local and Global World series).

Peer Reviewed Articles

"Black Women's Reform and Resistance in South Africa, 1900s-1940s," *Women and Modern Empire, 1840 to the Present*, edited by Kathryn Kish Sklar and Thomas Dublin (Alexander Street Press, May 2018). Accompanied by a curated primary source database.

"The Other Half of the Sky: Women's Struggles in Zimbabwe," *Origins: Current Events in Historical Perspective* 3, No. 11 (August 2010): 1-10.

<https://origins.osu.edu/article/other-half-african-sky-women-s-struggles-zimbabwe>

Scholarly Digital Projects

Women of Black Wall Street. Director and Editor. <https://blackwallstreetwomen.com>

Women of Black Wall Street offers biographies of ten African American women who lived and worked in Greenwood during the 1921 Tulsa Race Massacre. The focus on class and gender joins with recent historical interventions to reveal the dynamism of Greenwood and deepen our knowledge of the experience, loss, and resilience of its community members. Students who join the project participate in canon expansion while learning valuable research and digital literacy skills.

Textbook

Chapter Editor, "The New Era," in *The American Yawp: A Massively Collaborative Open U.S. History Textbook*, Volume II. Ben Wright and Joseph Locke, eds. (Stanford, California: Stanford University Press, 2019), 163-189.

Excerpt Author: "African-American Women and Anti-Lynching Activism," "Development of Gay Liberation Movement in the U.S" and "Harlem Renaissance" in *The American Yawp: A Massively Collaborative Open U.S. History Textbook*, Volume II. Ben Wright and Joseph Locke, eds. (Stanford, California: Stanford University Press, 2019).

Published Book Reviews

Keisha T. Blain, *Set the World on Fire: Black Nationalist Women and the Global Struggle for Freedom Struggles* and Imaobong D. Umoren, *Race Women Internationalists: Activist-Intellectuals and Global Freedom Struggles. Women and Social Movements in the United States, 1600-2000*, Spring 2021.

Darnella Davis, *Untangling A Red, White, and Black Heritage: A Personal History of the Allotment Era. The Chronicles of Oklahoma* 98, No. 2 (Summer 2020).

Brian D. Behnken and Gregory D. Smithers, Eds., *Black Intellectual Thought in Modern America: A Historical Perspective. Journal of Southern History* 85, No. 2 (May 2019).

Cheryl Higashida, *Black Internationalist Feminism: Women Writers of the Black Left, 1945-1995. National Political Science Review* 18, No. 1 (2017).

Encyclopedia Articles

“Kizziah J. Bills, 1860-1924,” in *Online Biographical Dictionary of the Woman Suffrage Movement in the United States* edited by Kathryn Kish Sklar, and Thomas Dublin (Alexandria, VA: Alexander Street): December 2019.

<https://documents.alexanderstreet.com/VOTESforWOMEN>

FELLOWSHIPS & GRANTS

Scholar Research Grant, Oklahoma Humanities, 2019

Alyce Hunley Wayne Visiting Researchers Travel Award, University of Kansas, 2017

Dissertation Fellowship, Ford Foundation, 2013-2014

Dissertation Completion Fellowship, Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations, 2013-2014, *Declined

Diversity and International Travel Grant, Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations, 2013

Scholar Award, International Chapter, Philanthropic Educational Organization (P.E.O.)

Sisterhood, 2012-2013

Dissertation Completion Grant, Social Science Research Council-Mellon Mays Graduate Initiatives Programs, 2015

Graduate Studies Enhancement Grant, Social Science Research Council-Mellon Mays Graduate Initiatives Programs, 2013

University & Departmental

Community Engagement Grant, College of Arts and Sciences, Oklahoma State University, 2021

Fae Rawdon Norris Foundation for the Humanities, Oklahoma State University, 2019

Academic Summer Research Award (+1, College of Arts and Sciences, Oklahoma State University, 2019

Fall Research Travel Award, Oklahoma State University, College of Arts and Sciences, 2019

Pamplin Professional Impact Fund, Augusta University College of Arts and Sciences, 2017 and 2016

Critical Difference for Women Professional Development Grant, The Ohio State University, 2013

Coca-Cola Critical Difference for Women Grants for Research on Women, Gender, and Gender

Equity, 2012

Sonkin-Bergman-Wasserman Families' Scholarship for International Understanding and Peace, The Ohio State University (2012)
Gordon P.K. Chu Memorial Award, The Ohio State University (2012)
Genevieve Brown Gist Dissertation Research Award in Women's History, The Ohio State University (2012)
Graduate Research Small Grant, The Ohio State University (2010-2015)

AWARDS & HONORS

Award for Excellence in Advancement of the Land-Grant Mission, Oklahoma State University, 2021
Dr. Patricia Bell Inclusive Excellence Award, Institutional Diversity, Oklahoma State University, 2021
Rising Star Award, Women's Faculty Council, Oklahoma State University, 2021

SCHOLARLY PRESENTATIONS

[Roundtable Participant] "Finding the Personal to Link the Local and Global in Women's Social Movements," Berkshire Conference on the History of Women, Genders and Sexualities, Johns Hopkins University, May 2020. [Cancelled due to COVID-19]

[Institute Leader and Organizer] "Crowdsourcing Approach to Revitalizing Scholarship on Black Women Suffragists: A Revisionist Contribution to the Centennial of Woman Suffrage," Organization of American Historians, Washington, D.C., April 2020. [Cancelled due to COVID-19]

"The Foreign Writings and Travels of Dr. Marguerite P. Cartwright" Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations Annual Conference, Arlington, Virginia, June 2019.

"Any Power Strong Enough to Assist in the Hour of Distress?: African American Clubwomen's Internationalism in the 1890s," African American Intellectual History Society Conference, Ann Arbor, Michigan, March 2019.

"1919: The National Association of Colored Women, Mary B. Talbert, and France." American Historical Association, Chicago, Illinois, January 2019.

"Plac[ing] the National Need before the Local Prejudice": The NACW & World War I." Association for the Study of African American History and Life Conference, Indianapolis, Indiana, October 2019.

"New Representations of Transnational Feminist History." Organization of American Historians, Sacramento, California, April 2018.

"Mission[s] of Contact and Study': Southern Women and the Foreign Study Tours of the National Council of Negro Women." Southern Studies Conference, Auburn, Alabama, February 2018.

"Roommates, Resistance, and Renaissance: Sue Bailey Thurman and Louise Thompson Patterson in Harlem." Conference on the Harlem Renaissance, Augusta, Georgia, November 2017.

"The Importantly Dual Task': Black Educational Internationalists and Howard University, 1940s-1960s." Association for the Study of African American Life and History, Cincinnati, Ohio, October 2017.

“History as Discipline and History by Doing.” Conference of the Georgia Association of Historians, Jekyll Island, February 2017.

“We Have Begun to Lengthen Our Cords and Strengthen Our Stakes’: Black Clubwomen’s Pursuit of Peace and Justice during The Harlem Renaissance Era.” Conference on the Harlem Renaissance, Paine College, Augusta, Georgia, November 2016.

[Panel Organizer and Presenter] “Trained Hands, Heads, and Hearts: Black Women’s Education for Duty and Citizenship in South Africa and the United States.” (Paper) and “Crossing and Confronting Borders: Transnational Connections, Conversations, and Limitations.” (Panel), Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations, San Diego, California, June 2016.

Chair/Moderator, “45th Anniversary of the Augusta Race Riots and The Steering Committee: A Short Documentary,” Georgia Regents University, 5th Annual Diversity Summit, Augusta, Georgia, September 2015.

“I Had Learned All Kinds of Ways to Make Things Happen’: Sue Bailey Thurman’s Activism in the Search for ‘Common Ground.’” Association for the Study of African American Life and History, Atlanta, Georgia, September 2015.

“Foreign Study Tours of the National Council of Negro Women, 1940s-1960s.” Southern Association for Women Historians, Charleston, South Carolina, June 2015.

“The Multidimensional International Activism of the National Council of Negro Women, 1944-1975.” American Historical Association, New York City, New York, January 2015.

“Our Special Piece of Work’: The Formation of African American Women’s Organizations for the Pursuit of Peace and Justice during the Inter-War Period.” Southeast World History Association, Boca Raton, Florida October 2014.

“How They Got There: The National Council of Negro Women’s (NCNW) International Division,” Ford Foundation Conference of Fellows, Irvine, California, September 2014.

“Women and Social Movements, International as a Tool in Policy History about African American Women.” Conference on Policy History, Columbus, Ohio, June 2014.

“Doing a Great Thing for Our People in This Hemisphere’: NCNW Tours and Travels to Latin America.” Conference on Latin American History, Washington, D.C., January 2014.

Chair/Moderator, “Intersections of Black Women, Literary Productions, and the Harlem Renaissance.” Conference on the Harlem Renaissance, Augusta, Georgia, November 2013.

“The Importantly Dual Task’: Flemma Kittrell, Edith Sampson, and Dorothy Ferebee’s Travels for the U.S. State Department.” Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations, Arlington, Virginia, June 2013.

“We Dare Not Afford the Luxury of Building Spite-Fences’: The NCNW’s Support for the United Nations.” Association for the Study of African American Life and History, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, September 2012.

INVITED TALKS

Panelist, “Commemorating Tulsa: Remembrance and Reconciliation,” Western Historical Association, October 18, 2021.

Panelist, Public Event, “Legacy of the Tulsa Race Massacre,” Oklahoma Historical Society, June 12, 2021.

Speaker, “The Other Independence Day: Juneteenth,” Gilcrease Museum, Tulsa, Oklahoma, June 19, 2020.

Keynote Speaker, Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration, Oklahoma State University, January 19, 2021.

“Live Peaceably with All Men: African American Women’s Activism for Peace, Prosperity, and Parity,” in *Women of the World: Time for a New Paradigm for Peace*, University of Maryland, College Park, *Bahá’í* Chair for World Peace, College Park, Maryland, September 2019.

Round-Table Participant, Exploring the Ways Diverse Scholars Create Meaning & Place Making within the Academy, UNCF/Mellon Summer Institute, Emory University, Atlanta, Georgia, May 2019.

“‘Any Power Strong Enough to Assist in the Hour of Distress’: African American Women, International Human Rights Law, and the Court of Public Opinion,” in *Common Cause: Synthesizing the Work of Human Rights and Civil Rights Scholars and Practitioners*, Northern Kentucky Chase College of Law, Highland Heights, Kentucky, April 2019.

Diversity & Inclusion Grand Rounds, "Hidden Figures: A History of African American Women & The State Department." The Office of Diversity and Inclusion, Augusta University, Augusta, Georgia, January 2018.

Life of the Mind: Pamplin College, “Giving Light and Help: Susie Wiseman Yergan and the Unity Home-Makers' Club of South Africa.” Augusta University, Augusta, Georgia, November 2017.

Keynote Speaker, “African Americans and the Constitution.” Fall Assembly, Paine College, Augusta, Georgia, September 2017

“Teaching, Scholarship, and Service: Focus on Balance,” Annual UNCF/Mellon Summer Institute, Emory University, Atlanta, Georgia, June 2016.

SELECTED MEDIA APPEARANCES

Quoted by Victor Luckerson. “The Women Who Preserved the Story of the Tulsa Race Massacre.” *The New Yorker* (May 28, 2021). <https://www.newyorker.com/news/us-journal/the-women-who-preserved-the-story-of-the-tulsa-race-massacre>

“The Forgotten Women of Black Wall Street.” Interview with Brentin Mock. Bloomberg CityLab +Equality (May 28, 2021) <https://www.bloomberg.com/news/features/2021-05-28/the-black-women-business-owners-of-black-wall-street>

“The Forgotten Women of Black Wall Street.” Interview with Tim Stanley. *The Tulsa World* (July 13, 2021) https://tulsaworld.com/news/local/racemassacre/new-website-created-by-osu-students-promotes-women-of-black-wall-street/article_a04c1e6c-c549-11eb-ae2a-2314198fbc5.html

“The African American Women’s Suffrage Movement.” Interview with Kalynn Schwandt. *Modmuze: Stillwater’s Fashion and Lifestyle Magazine* (Student Magazine, Oklahoma State Department of Design, Housing and Merchandising). (November 2020) https://issuu.com/modmuzemag/docs/single_page_continuous_for_issuu_no_fcacf782573a06

TEACHING & PEDAGOGY

Oklahoma State University, 2018-

- U.S. History Research Seminar (Graduate Course)
- Digital Methods in U.S. History
- African American History to 1865
- African American History since 1865
- Black Women in the U.S. (Africana Studies)
- Black Intellectual History
- Oklahoma History
- Survey of American History

Augusta University, 2016-2018

- African American History to 1877
- African American History since 1877
- United States History to 1877
- United States History since 1877 (& Honors section)
- Black Women in U.S. History (cross-listed, Women and Gender Studies)
- Undergraduate Internship in History

Pedagogical Reflections:

Contributor: Teaching United States History Blog, 2014-2015
<http://www.teachingushistory.co/category/brandy-thomas-wells>

Graduate committees

Jorge Luis Chavez Enriquez, MA Student In-Progress, Committee Member
Ryan McMullen, MA Student Completed, Summer 2020, Committee Member

SERVICE

Professional:

- Committee Member, Women’s Committee, Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations, 2020-2022
- Book Review Editor, *National Political Science Review*, (2017-2019).
- Board Member, Advisory Board for Online Instruction, Virginia College, Augusta, Georgia (2014-2018).
- Advisory Board, Women and Social Movements and Women and Social Movements, International (2014-2016).

Department and University:

Faculty and Staff Committee Member, Oklahoma State University, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Task Force.
Special Consultant to Dean of Libraries, Race and Justice Collection, Oklahoma State University
Committee Member, Oklahoma State University, Department of History, Advisory Committee (2018-present).
Committee Member, Oklahoma State University, Department of History, Scholarship and Philanthropy, (2020).
Committee Member, Oklahoma State University, Department of History, Graduate Committee (2019-2020)
Committee Member, Oklahoma State University, Department of History, Library and Technology Committee, (2019-2020)
Academic Integrity Officer, Oklahoma State University, Department of History, (2019-2020)
Committee Member, Oklahoma State University, Department of History, Graduate Committee (2019-present).
Environmental History Search Committee Member, Oklahoma State University.
Committee Member, Student Affairs Subcommittee of the Senate, Mandatory Student Fees, Augusta University (2017-2018).
Committee Member, Augusta University, African American Male Initiative (2016-2018).
“Hidden Figures: African American Women in U.S. History: Student Showcase.” Augusta University (March 29-30, 2018) (*Co-sponsored by The Department of History, Anthropology, and Philosophy, the Women and Gender Studies Program and the Office of Student Life and Engagement).
Committee Member, Undergraduate thesis, [Michaela Mack] Honors College, Augusta University, Augusta, Georgia (2017-2018).
University Representative and Participant for Augusta University, Augusta, Georgia, National Collegiate Honors Council Civil Rights Faculty Institute, Birmingham, Alabama (March 2017).
Committee Member, Skloot/Lacks Steering Committee. Augusta University (December 2017–April 2018).
Article Reviewer, *American Quarterly* (April 2016).
Committee Member, Black History Month Planning Committee, Augusta University (2015).
Judge, Ohio’s War of 1812 Bicentennial Commission Research Contest for Middle and High School Students (2014).
Volunteer, Committee on Institutional Cooperation (CIC), 24th Annual Summer Research Opportunity Program, Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio (July 2010).

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

Association for the Study of African American Life and History
African American Intellectual History Society
Association for the Study of the Worldwide African Diaspora
Association of Black Women Historians
Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations
American Historical Association
Organization of American Historians