

LATRICA E. BEST
(she/her)

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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- July 2022 - Present **Associate Professor**, Department of Sociology and African & African Diaspora Studies, Boston College
- Affiliate Faculty, Medical Humanities, Health, and Culture
- Jan – June 2022 **Associate Dean, Graduate Education**, College of Arts and Sciences, University of Louisville
- 2016-June 2022 **Associate Professor**, Department of Sociology, University of Louisville
- Affiliate Faculty, Anne Braden Institute for Social Justice Research, (2020-Present)
- Affiliate Faculty, Interdisciplinary Graduate Studies Program in Health Care Ethics, (2020-Present)
- 2016-2018 **Associate Professor**, Department of Pan-African Studies, (2016-2018)
- Director of Graduate Studies, Dept. of Pan-African Studies, (2016-2018)
- Vice Chair, Department of Pan-African Studies, (2016-2017)
- 2010-2016 **Assistant Professor**, Joint Appointment, Department of Pan-African Studies, Department of Sociology, University of Louisville
- Vice Chair, Department of Pan-African Studies, (2014-2016)
- 2008-2010 **National Institute on Aging Postdoctoral Fellow**, Andrus Gerontology Center, University of Southern California

EDUCATION

- 2008 **Ph.D. in Sociology & Demography, minor in Gerontology**, The Pennsylvania State University
- National Institute on Aging Predoctoral Fellow, (2003-2006)
- National Institute of Child Health and Human Development Predoctoral Interdisciplinary Training in Demography, (2006-2007)
- 2004 **M.A. in Sociology and Demography**, The Pennsylvania State University

2001

B.A. in Biology and Sociology, The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

RESEARCH & TEACHING INTERESTS

Race/Ethnicity	Intersectionality
Research Methods and Statistics	Aging and the Life Course
Medical Sociology	Social Demography
Global Health	Health Disparities

PUBLICATIONS

(* denotes graduate student, + denotes undergraduate student)

Books

McCutcheon, Priscilla, **Latrica E. Best**, & Theresa Rajack-Talley. (Eds.) (2023) *Beyond the kitchen table: Black women and global food systems*. University of North Carolina Press.

Peer-Reviewed Articles

McMenamin, Sarah, & Latrica E. Best. *Revise & Resubmit*. Time of human life history events can be shaped by structural inequity: Considerations for a developmental biology classroom. *Developmental Biology*.

Burns, Shane, **Latrica E. Best**, & Solomon Amoatey. (2023). Exploring the intersectionality of place and gender among older adults in Ghana: An examination of women's disability disadvantage. *Innovation in Aging*. <https://doi.org/10.1093/geroni/igad134>

Rajack-Talley, Theresa, Siobhan Smith, **Latrica E. Best**, Lindsay Della, Margaret D'Silva, Deborah Potter, & Quaniqua Carthan*. (2017). Epistemological inclusiveness in researching the African American community. *International Journal of Social Science Methodology*, 20(4), 411-423.

Byrd, W. Carson & **Latrica E. Best**. (2016). Between (racial) groups and a hard place: An exploration of social science approaches to race and genetics, 2000-2014. *Biodemography and Social Biology*, 62(3), 281-299. DOI: [10.1080/19485565.2016.1238299](https://doi.org/10.1080/19485565.2016.1238299)

Della, Lindsay, Margaret D'Silva, **Latrica E. Best**, Siobhan Smith, Quaniqua Carthan*, & Theresa Rajack-Talley. (2016). Modeling message preferences: An adaptive conjoint analysis of persuasive messaging to increase fruit and vegetable consumption. *Journal of Communication in Healthcare*, 9(3), 164-177. <https://doi.org/10.1080/17538068.2016.1238179>

D'Silva, Margaret, Siobhan Smith, Lindsay Della, Deborah Potter, Theresa Rajack-Talley, & **Latrica E. Best**. (2016). Reflexivity and positionality in researching African American

communities: Lessons from the field. *Intercultural Communication Studies*, 25(1), 94-109.

Potter, Deborah, Lisa Markowitz, Theresa Rajack-Talley, Siobhan Smith, Margaret D'Silva, Lindsay Della, **Latrica E. Best**, & Quaniqua Carthan*. (2016). Healthicization and lay knowledge about eating practices in two African American communities. *Qualitative Health Research*, 26(14), 1961-1974. <https://doi.org/10.1177/1049732315606683>

Best, Latrica E. & W. Carson Byrd. (2014). Methods beyond methods: A model for Africana graduate methods training. *Journal of Pan-African Studies*, 7(1), 61-73.

Best, Latrica E. & John Chenault* (2014). Rethinking bioethics: The implication of biological markers in health research in the African diaspora. *Journal of Pan-African Studies*, 7(1), 74-98.

Della, Lindsay, Siobhan Smith, **Latrica E. Best**, & Margaret D'Silva. (2014). What's Hoppin' in hoptown? Examining fruit and vegetable consumption among Hopkinsville's African American community. *Kentucky Journal of Communication*, 33(2), 5-24.

Wray, Linda, Duane Alwin, Ryan McCammon, Tim Manning, & **Latrica E. Best**. (2006). Social status, risky health behaviors, and diabetes in middle-aged and older adults. *The Journals of Gerontology: Social Sciences*, 61(6), S290-S298. <https://doi.org/10.1093/geronb/61.6.S290>

Best, Latrica E., Mark D. Hayward, & Mira M. Hidajat. (2005). Life course pathways to adult-onset diabetes. *Social Biology*, 52(3-4), 94-111.

Book Chapters

Best, Latrica E. (2023). "Black women, food, and health: Exploring the importance of intersectionality in population-based health studies." Pp. 158-172 in *Beyond the kitchen table: Black women and global food systems*, edited by P. McCutcheon, **L. Best**, & T. Rajack-Talley. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press.

——— (2023). "Part 3: Food security, health, and well-being." Pp. 151-157 in *Beyond the kitchen table: Black women and global food systems*, edited by P. McCutcheon, **L. Best**, & T. Rajack-Talley. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press.

Best, Latrica E. (2017). The impact of personality change on health among older Americans: Findings from the Health and Retirement study. In M. McGehee & B. Bradshaw (Eds.), *Applied demography and public health in the 21st Century* (pp. 51-68). Springer International.

Best, Latrica E. & Byrd, W. Carson. (2015). All marked-up in the genetic era: Genetic and biomarkers as 'floating signifiers' in race-related health research. In B.L. Perry (Ed.), *Advances in medical sociology: Genetics and society* (pp. 45-69). Emerald Group Publishers.

Rajack-Talley, Theresa & **Best, Latrica E.** (2015). The feminization of poverty and

the Black family: Ideological and methodological contestations. In J. Conyers, Jr. (Ed.) *The Black Family and Society*, 6th Edition (pp. 87-102). Routledge.

Vasunilashorn, Sarinnapha, **Best, Latrica**, Kim, Jung Ki, & Crimmins, Eileen M. (2014). Predicting mortality from profiles of biological risk and performance measures of functioning. In J. Anson & M. Luy (Eds.), *Mortality in an International Perspective (European Studies of Population)* (pp. 119-135). Springer.

Reviews & Essays

Best, Latrica E. (spring 2021). Understanding the pandemic's impact on Black Americans' health from a life course perspective. *Footnotes*, 49(2), 10-11.

MANUSCRIPTS IN PREPARATION

Best, Latrica E., Lauren Heberle, & Jordan Gatewood*. The burden of racialized time: exploring cumulative impacts using an intergenerational environmental justice framework. To be submitted to *Environmental Justice* (special issue on Cumulative Impacts and Government Decision-Making)

Best, Latrica E. & Solomon Amoatey. The changing context of disability and eldercare among Ghanaian families: A critical review of the literature.

Best, Latrica E., Lauren Heberle, & Haley Metcalf-Wade. Towards an Intergenerational Environmental Justice Framework for Climate Change Scholarship and Practice

Best, Latrica E. Environmental justice, intergenerational justice, and the impacts of climate change on health: Theoretical considerations

Best, Latrica E. Methodological innovations and the growth of sociogenomics in health disparities research

Best, Latrica E., Oliver Rollins, & Morgan Costa⁺. Mapping the different positions and politics of biosocial research on race and health disparities.

GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS

2021 Louisville Metro Government Office of Resilience and Community Services. "Louisville Metro Homeless Services Evaluation," Lora Haynes (PI), **Latrica Best**, Kelly Kinahan. \$100,000. (*funded*)

2017 National Science Foundation. "Genetic racial conceptualizations across the biomedical and social sciences, 1950-2015," National Science Foundation. **Latrica Best** (Co-PI) and W. Carson Byrd (Co-PI). \$944,031. (*not funded*)

- 2016 Research Project Initiation Grant, Office of Community Engagement, University of Louisville. “Age-appropriate curriculum development in African American Studies for the Street Academy Project: Roosevelt Perry Elementary School,” Co-Investigators: **Latrica Best** (Co-PI), Theresa Rajack-Talley (Co-PI) and Charles C. Davis, Jr. \$10,000. (*not funded*)
- 2016 National Science Foundation, “Floating signifiers in academic innovation and publication: The use of race and ethnicity across multiple disciplines in the genomic era: 1900-2014,” **Latrica Best** (Co-PI) and W. Carson Byrd (Co-PI). \$403,240. (*not funded*)
- 2015 Intramural Research and Creative Activities, University of Louisville. “Floating signifiers in academic innovation and publication: The use of race and ethnicity across multiple disciplines in the genomic era,” **Latrica Best** (Co-PI) and W. Carson Byrd (Co-PI). 2015-2016, \$2,039. (*funded*)
- 2014 Michigan Center for Urban African American Aging Research Center, “Personality & health over time among older African Americans,” **Latrica Best** (PI). \$40,000. (*not funded*)
- 2013 Office of Community Engagement, Research/Project Initiation Grant, University of Louisville, “The multiracial family wellness project,” Kevin Chapman (PI), **Latrica Best**, and Jesse Owen. 2013-2014, \$4,050. (*funded*)
- 2013 Robert Wood Johnson Foundation’s New Connections Program, “Psychosocial factors, health, and older African Americans,” **Latrica Best** (PI). \$100,000. (*not funded*)
- 2013 National Institute of Health (NIH), National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute, “Exploring culture, community, communication, and fruit and vegetable intake in Black Kentuckians,” Lindsay Della (PI), **Latrica Best** (consultant), Margaret D’Silva, Toni Miles, Deborah Potter, Theresa Rajack-Talley, 2012-2014, \$180,654. (*funded*)
- 2008 National Institute on Aging (NIA) Postdoctoral Fellow in Gerontology, Andrus Gerontology Center, The University of Southern California, (Eileen Crimmins, preceptor). 2008-2010.
- 2007 National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD) Pre-Doctoral Interdisciplinary Training in Demography, The Pennsylvania State University, (Melissa Hardy, preceptor).
- 2003 National Institute on Aging (NIA) Pre-Doctoral Fellow in Gerontology, The Pennsylvania State University (Mark Hayward, preceptor). 2003-2006.

AWARDS

- 2014 “Faculty Favorite” nominee, College of Arts & Sciences, University of Louisville.
- 2009 Poster Session Winner, Vasunilashorn, Sarinnapha, **Latrica Best**, Jung Ki Kim, and Eileen M. Crimmins. “Predicting Mortality Using Latent Class Risk of Biological and Functioning Indicators.” Poster presented at the Annual Meeting of Population Association of America, Detroit, MI.
- 2006 Finalist, Robert Wood Johnson Health and Society Scholar, University of Michigan
- 2004 1st Place Winner, Social and Behavioral Sciences Division, Graduate School Exhibition, The Pennsylvania State University.
- 2003 Joan Huber and William Form Graduate Scholarship in Sociology, The Pennsylvania State University. 2003-2004.
- 2001 Honorable Mention, Ford Foundation Predoctoral Fellowship

ADDITIONAL TRAINING & RECOGNITION

- 2024 University of Michigan’s Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research (ICPSR) Summer Program in Quantitative Methods of Social Research short course, “R: Learning by Example.” Virtual.
- 2017 National Institute on Aging’s Genomics for Social Scientists Workshop, University of Michigan.
- 2013 University of Michigan’s Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research (ICPSR) Summer Program in Quantitative Methods of Social Research short course, “Analyzing Developmental Trajectories”, at the University of Massachusetts-Amherst.
- 2013 University of Michigan’s Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research (ICPSR) Summer Program in Quantitative Methods of Social Research short course, “Applied Multilevel Models for Longitudinal Data”, at the University of Colorado-Boulder.
- 2013 Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Coaching Clinic, Boston, MA.
- 2012 Robert Wood Johnson Foundation New Connections Symposium, Princeton, NJ.
- 2012 American Educational Research Association Grants Program’s Faculty Institute for the Teaching of Statistics with Large-Scale Datasets, Stanford University.

- 2010 Summer Institute on Research Methodology, College of Health & Human Sciences, Oregon State University.
- 2009 Cells to Society (C2S) Summer Biomarker Institute, Northwestern University.
- 2009 Travel Award, The Michigan Center for Urban African American Aging Research (MCUAAAR) Summer Training Workshop on African American Aging Research, Institute of Gerontology, Wayne State University.
- 2009 Mini-Medical School for Social Scientists and Demography, Economics, and Epidemiology of Aging, RAND Summer Institute, Santa Monica, CA.
- 2006 Workshop in Biodemography, Stanford University.
- 2005 Frontiers of Demographic Research on Mortality and Longevity, Joint Summer School of the International Union for the Scientific Study of Population (IUSSP) and Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research, Rostock, Germany.
- 2004 Event History Analysis, The Summer Institute in Survey Research Techniques, Survey Research Center, Institute for Social Research, University of Michigan.

INVITED PRESENTATIONS, TALKS, & PANELS

- 2024 “A Lifelong Battle: Health Equity and Aging.” Panelist for Health Equity Day, 2024. The Boston Globe
- 2023 “Climate change and health: Age and Intergenerational Considerations.” MIT AgeLab’s 2023 Series on Aging and Equity, Massachusetts Institute of Technology (January)
- 2023 “Multidisciplinary Uses of the Health and Retirement Study: Examples from Economics, Social Work, and Sociology.” Presentation and panel discussion. Aging Research Group, Boston College (April 26th)
- 2022 Research on Food and Health, Invited speaker for Schiller Institute’s Discussion on Health, Food Insecurity and the Environment, Boston College.
- 2021 “Mapping the different positions and politics of biosocial research on race and Health. Belong Speaker Series: Breaking Barriers in Science, Technology, Engineering, Medicine/Health (STEAM). Dalhousie University, Halifax, Nova Scotia.
- 2021 “Mapping the different positions and politics of biosocial research on race and health.” Talk for Health Care Ethics Speaker Series, University of Louisville.

- 2021 “The road I’ve traveled: Navigating the tenure process as an interdisciplinary scholar.” Talk to the UC Berkeley Black Feminist Health Sciences Studies Collaboratory.
- 2021 “Picture a scientist post-film discussion.” Panel discussion, NSF Athena women in STEM initiative, University of Louisville.
- 2021 “How racism affects public health & health outcomes.” Panel discussion, All Eyes On Louisville: Women’s, Uof L’s Gender and Sexuality’s Studies Spring 2021 Social Justice Speaker Series.
- 2019 “Medical rights and health literacy.” Talk to the student chapter of the National Medical Association’s Region X Medical Education Conference, University of Louisville School of Medicine.
- 2019 “Career ish.” Panel discussion presented by the Multicultural Association of Graduate Students, University of Louisville, 2018 & 2019.
- 2017 “Racism & Health.” Talk presented at the Culturally Effective Care Symposium, University of Louisville’s Health Sciences campus.
- 2016 Keynote Address, Spring Visitation Day for Prospective Students, The Graduate School, University of Louisville.
- 2015 “Racial Conflict & Its Impact on Health.” Panel discussion for the Office of Diversity & Inclusion, University of Louisville’s Health Sciences campus.
- 2015 “The impact of personality on African-American health and well-being.” Paper presented in the special symposium, *Social and Psychological Factors to Promote Health and Wellbeing in Aging African Americans*, Gerontological Society of America, Orlando, FL.
- 2015 “The growing burden of chronic disease among older Ghanaians.” Talk presented at the Department of Sociology Spring Colloquium, University of Louisville.
- 2013 Della, Lindsay, Siobhan Smith, Theresa Rajack-Talley, Margaret D’Silva, Deborah Potter, **Latrica E. Best**, Quaniqua Carthan, Keneka Cheatham, Lisa Markowitz, & Latonia Craig. “Engaging the community while exploring the food culture of African Americans in West Louisville and Hopkinsville.” Presented at the Second Annual Celebration of Faculty Excellence, University of Louisville.
- 2012 “Black Love: A conversation about relationships and sexuality in the African American community.” Panel discussion, Pan-African Graduate Student Association & Center for Race and Inequality in the African American Community, University of Louisville.

- 2012 “Health disparities in the African Diaspora.” Talk presented at African American Network Resource Group Speaker Series, Humana Corporation, Louisville, KY.
- 2011 “Connecting with our sisters: Ghana, West Africa” Talk presented to Olmstead South Academy For Girls, sponsored by The Links, Louisville, KY.
- 2011 Vasunilashorn, Sarinnapha, **Latrica E. Best**, Jung Ki Kim, & Eileen M. Crimmins. “Predicting mortality using latent class risk of biological and functioning indicators.” Talk presented at The European Workshop on Health, Mortality and Morbidity: The State of the Art, Vienna, Austria.
- 2011 “Women and aging.” Talk presented at The Saturday Academy, College of Arts & Sciences, University of Louisville.
- 2010 “Securing postdoctoral fellowships” Talk presented to The Gerontology Graduate Student Association, University of Southern California.
- 2009 Weir, David, **Latrica E. Best**, & Eileen M. Crimmins. “Racial and ethnic differences in undiagnosed and poorly managed diabetes and hypertension: Combining population surveys with biomarker data (HRS 2006).” Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Gerontological Society of America. National Harbor, MD.
- 2006 “Research findings on obesity and overweight.” Presented at Gerontology Center Fall Series Colloquium Panel Discussion, The Pennsylvania State University.
- 2006 **Best, Latrica E.**, Mark D. Hayward, & Mira M. Hidajat. “Life course pathways to adult-onset diabetes.” Paper presented at the Gerontology Center Fall Series Colloquium, The Pennsylvania State University.

SELECT PRESENTATIONS & PANELS

- 2024 **Best, Latrica E.**, Priscilla McCutcheon, Theresa Rajack-Talley, & shakara tyler. “Conversations around the Table: Black Women’s Contributions to Global Food Systems.” Panel and presentation at the annual conference of the National Women’s Studies Association, Detroit, MI (November)
- 2024 **Best, Latrica E.**, Lauren Heberle, and Haley Metcalf-Wade. “Intergenerational environmental justice, local policy making, and climate change: Housing and resiliency policies in Louisville, KY.” Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Eastern Sociological Society, Washington, D.C. (March)
- 2023 **Best, Latrica E.**, Lauren Heberle, and Haley Metcalf-Wade. “Towards an intergenerational environmental justice framework for climate change scholarship

and practice.” Paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Sociological Association, Philadelphia, PA. (August)

- 2023 Burns, Shane D., **Latrica E. Best**, and Solomon Amoatey. “Exploring the intersection of locality and gender among older adults in Ghana: How social cohesion influences rates of disability.” Paper presented at the Workshop on Determinants on Adult Mortality, Morbidity, and Healthy Aging in Low- or Middle-Income Countries (LMICs). Virtual workshop co-sponsored by the UC Berkeley Center on the Economics and Demography of Aging (CEDA) and the USC/UCLA for Biodemography and Population Health (CBPH). (February)
- 2022 Heberle, Lauren, Haley Metcalf, Charlie Zhang, **Latrica Best**, Natasha DeJarnett, Clara Sears, Gabriell Gassaway, & T. Gonzalez. “Intersections in climate change, public health, and intergenerational justice: Implications for research and practice in Louisville, KY.” Session presented at the American Public Health Association annual meeting, Boston, MA. (November)
- 2022 “Environmental justice, intergenerational justice, and the impacts of climate change on health: Theoretical considerations.” Paper presented at the American Public Health Association annual meeting, Boston, MA. (November)
- 2020 “The need for critical Science, Technology, and Society (STS) perspectives within demographic research on health disparities.” Paper to be presented at the annual meeting of the Society for Social Studies of Science, Prague. **(declined/no participation due to COVID-19).**
- 2019 “Double jeopardy: Health and caregiving responsibilities of women in the diaspora.” Paper presented at the Eastern Sociological Society annual meeting, Boston, MA.
- 2018 “Social stressors, personality and healthcare utilization.” Poster presented at the Gerontological Society of America annual meeting, Boston, MA.
- 2017 “Assessing the meanings of self-rated health across different socioeconomic groups: An examination of biological marker data from Ghana and South Africa.” Presented at the International Union of the Scientific Study of Population Meetings, Cape Town, South Africa.
- 2016 Pugh, James Kent*, **Latrica E. Best**, & Allison S. Smith. “Up in smoke: Assessing the impacts of coal-fired power plants on respiratory, cardiovascular, and lung cancer mortality using a power plant risk population risk measure.” Poster presented at the Population Association of America meeting, Washington, D.C.
- 2015 Della, Lindsay J, **Latrica E. Best**, Siobhan Smith, Quaniqua Carthan, Margaret D’Silva, Theresa Rajack-Talley, Deborah Potter, & Lisa Markowitz. “Tailoring

- interventions for increasing fruit and vegetable consumption among urban and rural African American audiences: Applying market decision-analysis to the intervention design processes.” Paper presented at the American Public Health Association meetings, Chicago, IL.
- 2015 “Assessing the prevalence and impact of multiple chronic illnesses by gender Among Older Ghanaians”. Paper presented at the Gerontological Society of America annual meeting, Orlando, FL.
- 2015 Byrd, W. Carson and **Latrica E. Best**. “Between (racial) groups and a hard place: An exploration of social science approaches to race and genetics, 2000-2014.” Paper to be presented at the 6th Annual Integrating Genetics and the Social Sciences conference, Institute of Behavioral science, University of Colorado, Boulder, CO.
- 2015 “The impact of personality change on health among older Americans: Findings from the Health and Retirement Study.” Paper presented at the Population Association of America, San Diego, CA.
- 2014 “The growing burden of chronic disease among older Ghanaians.” Paper presented at the Gerontological Society of America, Washington, D.C.
- 2014 “The Health of parental caregivers in Ghana.” Poster presented at the Annual Meeting of the Population Association of America. Boston, MA.
- 2014 Della, Lindsay J., Siobhan E. Smith, Margaret U. D’Silva, **Latrica E. Best**, Quaniqua N. Carthan, Theresa Rajack-Talley, Deborah Potter, & Lisa B. Markowitz. “A cross-disciplinary approach to message design for public health campaigns encouraging increased fruit and vegetable consumption.” Paper presented at the Hawaii International Conference on Social Sciences.
- 2012 “Aging in Ghana: The cultural and societal implications awaiting a country’s newest demographic.” 1st Africa Region Conference on Gerontology and Geriatrics. (“Ageing Africa: Beyond Madrid +10”). International Association of Gerontology and Geriatrics. Cape Town, South Africa.
- 2012 **Best, Latrica E.** & Margath Walker. “New frontiers or old stories: The deployment of social darwinism in health disparities studies.” Biennial Meeting of Race, Ethnicity, & Place Conference. San Juan, Puerto Rico. (*accepted, but declined participation*)
- 2012 “Personality and other psychosocial indicators in population-based studies: The example of race differences in personality.” Informal Roundtable. Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association. Denver, CO.
- 2010 **Best, Latrica E.** & Lindsey Baker. “Undiagnosed and poorly treated diabetes and

- hypertension among older caregivers.” Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Gerontological Society of America. New Orleans, LA.
- 2009 “The impact of personality on depressive symptoms profiles in middle-aged and older adults.” Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Gerontological Society of America. Atlanta, GA.
- 2009 Vasunilashorn, Sarinnapha, **Latrica E. Best**, Yasuhiko Saito, & Eileen M. Crimmins. “Gender differences in biological markers in the U.S., Taiwan, and Japan.” Paper presented at the International Union for the Scientific Study of Population Meeting, Marrakech, Morocco.
- 2009 “The impact of psychosocial factors in explaining race disparities in health outcomes among older Americans.” Poster presented at the Annual Meeting of the Population Association of America. Detroit, MI.
- 2009 Vasunilashorn, Sarinnapha, **Latrica Best**, Jung Ki Kim, & Eileen M. Crimmins. “Predicting mortality using latent class risk of biological and functioning indicators.” Poster presented at the Annual Meeting of the Population Association of America. Detroit, MI.
- 2008 **Best, Latrica** & Melissa A. Hardy. “Establishing patterns of depressive symptoms among women in midlife.” Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Gerontological Society of America. National Harbor, MD.
- 2006 Menon, Niveditha & **Latrica E. Best**. "Politics of the aging body: Sexuality and health in aging populations." Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Population Association of America. New York, NY.
- 2005 **Best, Latrica E.**, Mark D. Hayward, & Mira M. Hidajat. “Childhood influences on diabetes among older Americans.” Paper presented at the International Union for the Scientific Study of Population Meeting. Tours, France.
- 2004 Hidajat, Mira M., **Latrica E. Best**, & Mark D. Hayward. “The effects of residence on health transitions for the oldest-old in China.” Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Gerontological Society of America. Washington, DC.
- 2004 “Racial differences in the prevalence of diabetes.” Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association. San Francisco, CA.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Participant, Population Association of America & Association of Population Centers Advocacy Day, 2022.

--Met with representatives of Kentucky U.S. House of Representatives and U.S. Senate to share examples of federally funded population research and advocate for their support for funding agencies that support population sciences.

Reviewer-Related Service

Review Panel Member, Ford Foundation Fellowship Program (Sociology), National Academies, 2015-2023

Review Panel Member, National Science Foundation (Sociology)

Editorial Board Member, *Socius*, 2021-2024

Editorial Board Member, *Social Problems*, 2021-2024

Reviewer, *Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science*
Biodemography and Social Biology, *International Journal of Contemporary Sociology*, *Sage Publications*, *Sociology of Development*, *Sociological Spectrum*, *University of California Press*

Conference-Related Service

Awards Committees Chair, Interdisciplinary Association for Population Health Sciences, 2024-2027

Member, Mentoring Program, Interdisciplinary Association for Population Health Sciences, 2024-2025

Workgroup Lead, Stephanie Robert Mentoring Award, 2023 Interdisciplinary Association for Population Health Sciences

Member, Program and Awards Committee, 2022 Interdisciplinary Association for Population Health Sciences

Session Organizer, "Aging in Vulnerable Populations," Population Association of America Annual Meeting, 2022

Discussant, "Racialization and Health," Population Association of America Annual Meeting, 2021

Abstract Reviewer, Gerontological Society of America, 2014

Chair, Session on “Cross-Cultural and Cross-National Aging.” Gerontological Society of America Annual Meeting, 2015

Chair, Session on “Analyze This: Personality and Aging.” Gerontological Society of America Annual Meeting, 2009

DEPARTMENT, COLLEGE, AND UNIVERSITY SERVICE

Boston College

African and African Diaspora Program:

Member, Planning Committee, Blacks in Boston Conference, 2024

Member, AADS Dissertation Fellowship Committee, 2023-2024

Department of Sociology:

Member, Graduate Admissions Committee, 2023

Member, Undergraduate Studies Committee, 2023-2024

Member, Graduate Studies Committee, 2023-2024

Member, Department Speaker Series Committee, 2023-2024

Member, Revisions to Introductory Sociology Course Committee, 2024-2025

College and University Level

Plenary panelist, 2023-2024 Teaching Assistant and Teaching Fellows Orientation (August)

Panelist, Women in STEM, Morrissey College of Arts and Sciences (April 2024)

Panelist, FACES Summit: The Roots of Racism (April 2024)

University of Louisville

Department Level

Department of Pan-African Studies:

Vice Chairperson, 2014-2017

Graduate Studies Committee, 2010-2018

Director of Graduate Studies, 2016-2018

Chair, Personnel Committee, 2016-2018

Member, Curriculum Committee, 2011-2014

Chair, Curriculum Committee, 2013-2014

Chair, Faculty Search Committee, 2012-2013

Planning Committee Member, Launch event for the PhD in Pan-African Studies, 2012

Co-chair, Distance Education Committee, 2010-2011

Department of Sociology:

Member, Department Speaker Series, 2022-2023, (Boston College)
Member, Graduate Admissions Committee, 2022-2023, (Boston College)
Member, Faculty Search Committee, 2011-2012; 2021-2022
Member, Graduate Studies Committee, Fall 2011; 2020-present
Chair, Jon Rieger Speaker Series, 2020-2021
Member, Personnel Committee, 2011-2012; Fall 2016; 2019-2021
Member, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee, 2017-2018
Member, Curriculum Committee, 2017-2018

College & University Level

Appointed Member, Provost's College of Arts and Sciences Strategic Planning Committee, 2022

Elected Alternate Member, College of Arts & Sciences Graduate Student Grievance Committee, 2021-2023

Chair, Institutional Review Board review panel, University of Louisville, 2017-2018

Grant proposal reviewer, Cooperative Consortium for Transdisciplinary Social Justice Research, 2017-2018

Co-Chair, Equity and Inclusion and Organizing Committee, American Association of University Professors, University of Louisville chapter, 2016

Delegation Member, Partnership between University of Louisville's Pan-African Studies Department and the University for Development Studies, Tamale, Ghana. 2011

Internal Review Committee, Center for Reducing Mental Health Disparities, University of Louisville, 2011-2012

SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY

Board of Directors, Americana World Community Center, Louisville, KY (2021-present)

Research Contributor, Louisville Metro Status on Women Report, 2020

Health Team Member, Vision Louisville, Louisville Mayor's Office, 2013-2014

Liaison (and Big Sister), Big Brothers, Big Sisters of Kentuckiana's partnership with the National Pan-Hellenic Council, Louisville, KY, 2011-2013

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Sociological Association

(Sections: Population, Aging, and the Life Course; Medical Sociology; Race, Gender and Class, Science, Science, Knowledge, and Technology)

Association of Black Sociologists

Eastern Sociological Society

Interdisciplinary Association for Population Health Science

Gerontological Society of America

Population Association of America

Society for the Study of Social Problems

(Sections: Racial and Ethnic Minorities, Health, Health Policy, and Health Services)

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

(all courses taught at University of Louisville unless otherwise noted)

Undergraduate Courses

- Health in the African American Community
- Sociology of Aging (*BC & UofL*)
- Population & Society
- Race & Ethnicity
- Research Methods
- Health and Inequality
- Medical Sociology
- Program Evaluation
- Senior Capstone Seminar in Pan-African Studies
- Food Justice across the African Diaspora (*BC*)

Graduate Courses

- Quantitative Research Strategies/Statistics in Pan African Studies
- Life Span Developmental Sociology (*University of Southern California*)
- Women and Global Health
- The Black Family
- Health and Human Rights
- Statistics
- Racialized Medicine (*BC & UofL*)
- Program Evaluation

INDEPENDENT STUDY COURSES

(all taught at the graduate level; * denotes multiple offerings)

- African American Mental Health
- Child Welfare
- Demography
- Demography of Aging and the Life Course
- Demography of Health

- Disability & Health
- Global Health
- History of Mental Health
- Intersectionality*
- Medical Sociology
- Neighborhoods and Health
- Race and Ethnicity*
- Race and Reproductive Justice
- Race Disparities in Health
- Racialized Medicine
- Women and Maternal Health
- Statistics
- Sociology of HIV/AIDS

2015 Participant, Month-long Faculty Reading Circle on Creating Self-Regulated Learners, Delphi Center for Teaching & Learning, University of Louisville.

2012 Funded Participant, American Educational Research Association Grants Program's Faculty Institute for the Teaching of Statistics with Large-Scale Datasets, Stanford University.

2011 Participant, Delphi U, (summer seminar on teaching online courses), Delphi Center for Teaching & Learning, University of Louisville. (2011 & 2018)

FORMAL STUDENT MENTORING

Undergraduate Thesis Advising (BC)

Laila Herrera, SOCY
Andrew Kim, SOCY

Research Advising (BC)

Jaleigh Dunlap, AADS, Community Advocacy and Research Engagement (CARE) course

Victoria Fuller, AADS, Community Advocacy and Research Engagement (CARE) course

Ph.D. Chair (UofL)

Solomon Amoatey, Sociology. "Disability, the life course, and health in Ghana." In progress.

John Broadus, Sociology.

Alexis Keen Crook, Pan-African Studies.

Warren King, Pan-African Studies. “Neighborhood disparities in healthcare: The accessibility, availability, and affordability of healthcare services.”

Jamar Wheeler, Sociology. “Black middle-class neighborhoods in Louisville through multiple lenses.” 2020.

James Kent Pugh, Sociology. “Moving mountains: A study examining long-term impacts of mountaintop removal coal mining on mortality in the Appalachian region using geographic information systems.” 2017.

Ph.D. Committees (UofL)

Chandre Chaney, Public Health. “Food insecurity during COVID-19.”

Camara Douglas, Pan-African Studies. “The underbelly of residential segregation & busing on education: A case study of Louisville, Kentucky.”

Rebecca Halpryn, Sociology

Haley Metcalf, Sociology

Trey Allen, Sociology. “A study of Arab and Pakistani American men with immigrant-family origins in two regionally isolated settings.” 2021.

Jonathon Holland, Sociology. “The norms are more guidelines than actual rules: Applying isomorphism to disability accommodations in the Catholic church. 2020.

Jelisa Clark, Sociology. “This is a black-white conversation: Navigating race, class, and gender at an urban school.” 2017.

Sula Hood, Public Health. “The influence of social contextual conditions and basic psychological need fulfillment on self-management and emotional distress among urban African American adults with type-2 diabetes mellitus: A mixed methods study.” 2012.

M.A. Chair (UofL)

Thomas Isaak, Sociology. “External homophobia and outness in gay men.” 2020.

Alexis Keen, Pan-African Studies. “Assessing cultural competence in a mental health outpatient facility.” 2016.

Shannon Spears, Pan-African Studies. “The problem of the twenty-first century in the Cherokee nation is the problem of the color line: How the Cherokee Freedman have articulated a sense of cultural identity and citizenship claims over time.” 2014.

Casey Griffith, Sociology. “Parental engagement on student academic self-efficacy and educational attainment expectation for immigrant youth.” 2012.

Tamara Spiller, Pan-African Studies. Thesis Exam Option, 2011.

M.A. Committees (UofL)

LeAnna Luney, Pan-African Studies. “‘Triggers’: Systematic and social cues for African American college student racial self-consciousness and rejection sensitivity.” 2018.

Tanisha Stanford, Pan-African Studies. “African American grandmothers as the black matriarch: You don’t live for yourself.” 2018.

Joshua Schuschke, Pan-African Studies. “#SayItLoud: Securing racial & academic identities for African American students through social media.” 2015.

Shelby Pumphrey, Pan-African Studies. “Reclaiming my body: Black women and the fight for reproductive justice.” 2014.

Tytianna Wells Smith, Pan-African Studies. “An exploration of African folktales among the Gullah community of the South Carolina Sea Islands: History, culture, and identity.” 2012.

Nannie Croney, Pan-African Studies and Social Work.

Megan Pavageau, Pan-African Studies.

Courtney Wheeler, Sociology.

Undergraduate Internship Supervisor (Pan-African Studies) (UofL)

Dayiaone Bibb. St. George’s Scholar Institute at the California Community Center, 2019.

Thomas Gordon, University of Louisville, Department of Neurology, 2016.

Aranise Hodges, Village Learning Center, 2014.

Sasha Ndvolu, Kentucky Center for African American Heritage, 2014.

Rachel Ellis, University of Louisville, College of Arts and Sciences, Inclusion & Equity, 2013.

Fairen Harris, University of Louisville, College of Arts and Sciences, Inclusion & Equity, 2013.

Israel McCullough, Community Development, 2013.

Amber Burns, Revolutionary Reading Circle, 2012.

Jyler Donovan, University of Louisville, Pan-African Studies Department, 2012.

On'Draya Green, Muhammad Ali Center, 2012.