

J. Brent Crosson

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Austin, TX 78712-1090 | 512.471.3967 | brent.crosson@utexas.edu

EDUCATION

Ph.D., Anthropology, University of California- Santa Cruz, Santa Cruz, CA	2014
M.A., Anthropology, University of California- Santa Cruz, Santa Cruz, CA	2008
B.A., Sociology and Anthropology, Swarthmore College, Swarthmore, PA	2002

PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

Assistant Professor, Department of Religious Studies, The University of Texas at Austin	2015-Present
Faculty Affiliate, Department of Anthropology, UT Austin	2015-Present
Faculty Associate, Lorenzo Long Institute for Latin American Studies, UT Austin	2015-Present
Faculty Affiliate, Warfield Center for African and African American Studies, UT Austin	2017-Present
Faculty Affiliate, History and Philosophy of Science Program, UT Austin	2017-Present
Ruth Landes Memorial Postdoctoral Fellow, Department of Anthropology, New York University, New York, NY	2014-2015

PUBLICATIONS

BOOKS

1. Crosson, J. Brent (2020). *Experiments with Power: Obeah and the Remaking of Religion in Trinidad*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press. 115,000 words. (Publication date of June 2020 in the University of Chicago Book Series *Class 200: New Studies in Religion*, edited by Kathryn Lofton and John Lardas Modern).

EDITED PEER-REVIEWED JOURNAL SPECIAL ISSUES

2. Crosson, J. Brent (Ed.). (2019). Special Issue: What Possessed You? Spirits, Property, and Political Sovereignty at the Limits of "Possession." *Ethnos* 84(4). 121 pp.

PEER-REVIEWED JOURNAL ARTICLES

3. Crosson, J. Brent. (2020). "Don't Study People": The Ethics of Studying Others in Trinidad and in Anthropology. *Anthropological Quarterly* 93(1), 1093-1124.
4. Crosson, J. Brent. (2019). Introduction: What Possessed You? Spirits, Property, and Political Sovereignty at the Limits of "Possession." *Ethnos* 84(4), 546-556.
5. Crosson, J. Brent. (2019). Catching Power: Problems with Possession, Sovereignty, and African Religions in Trinidad. *Ethnos* 84(4), 588-614.

6. Crosson, J. Brent. (2017). The Impossibility of Liberal Secularism: Religious (In)tolerance, Spirituality, and Not-Religion. *Method and Theory in the Study of Religion*, 30(1), 37-55.
7. Crosson, J. Brent. (2015). What Obeah Does Do: Healing, Harming, and the Boundaries of Religion. *The Journal of Africana Religions* 3(2), 151-176.
8. Crosson, J. Brent. (2014). Own People: Race, Altered Solidarities, and the Limits of Culture in Trinidad. *Small Axe* 45, 18-34.
 - a. Winner, The Question of the Social Sciences: A *Small Axe* Essay Competition, Duke University Press, 2012-13.
9. Barret, Anna, J. Brent Crosson, Gregory P. Crucian, & Kenneth Heilman. (2002). Far Bias on the Radial Line Bisection Task: Measuring Perceptual-Attentional and Motor-Intentional Bias in Normal Subjects. *Cortex* 38(5), 769-778.
10. Barret, Anna, J. Brent Crosson, Gregory P. Crucian, & Kenneth Heilman. (2000). Horizontal Line Bisections in Upper and Lower Body Space. *Journal of the International Neuropsychological Society* 6(4), 455-459.

PEER-REVIEWED BOOK CHAPTERS

11. Crosson, J. Brent. (In Press). Burdens of Proof: Science, Obeah, and its Mediums in Trinidad. In Ehler Voss and Daniel C. Barber (Eds.), *Mediality on Trial*, 25 ms. pp. (10, 180 words). Berlin: De Gruyter.
12. Crosson, J. Brent (In Press). “The Earth is the Lord” or “God is a Trini?”: The Political Theology of Climate Change, Environmental Stewardship, and Petroleum Extraction. In Evan Berry and David Haberman (Eds.), *Climate Politics and the Power of Religion*, 30 ms. pp. Bloomington: Indiana University Press.
13. Crosson, J. Brent (Accepted, 2019). Between Possessor and Possessed. In Diana Espírito Santo and Matan Shapiro (Eds.), *Conceiving the Cosmos: Warping a Novel Anthropology of Spirit Possession*. 43 ms. pp. Durham NC: Duke University Press.
14. Crosson, J. Brent (Accepted, 2019). Obeah Simplified? Occult Scientism and the Afflictions of Science in the Esoteric Atlantic. Invited Submission for *Critical Approaches to Science and Religion*, edited by Terence Keel, Ahmed Ragab, and Myrna Perez Sheldon. 40 ms. pp. Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press.

REFERENCE ARTICLES AND CHAPTERS

15. Crosson, J. Brent. (2019). The Politics of Spirituality and Secularization in Western Modernity. *Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Religion*. New York: Oxford University Press. 12,460 words.
16. Crosson, J. Brent. (Under Contract). Humanism and the Enlightenment. *Oxford Handbook of Humanism*, Anthony Pinn, ed. New York: Oxford University Press.

REVIEW ESSAYS

17. Crosson, J. Brent (2019). Invention Traditions: Authority and Power in African Diasporic Religions. *Religious Studies Review* 45(4), 451-459. 7,137 words.
18. Crosson, J. Brent (2016). *Cooking in Modernity's Crucible: Global Locals, Native Creoles, and the Politics of Culinary Mixture*. *Gastronomica: The Journal of Food and Culture* 26(2), 94-96.

INTERNET PUBLICATIONS

19. Crosson, J. Brent. (July 19, 2016). Oil, Obeah, and Science. *Cosmologics: A Magazine of Science, Religion, and Culture*, 11 pp. Available online, <http://cosmologicsmagazine.com/issues/summer2016>.
20. Crosson, J. Brent. (June 20, 2013). Invisibilities: Translation. Spirits of the Dead and the Politics of Invisibility. *Cultural Anthropology Online*, 2 pp. Available online, <http://www.culanth.org/fieldsights/346-invisibilitiestranslation-spirits-of-the-dead-and-the-politics-ofinvisibility>.

BOOK REVIEWS

21. Crosson, J. Brent (2018). Review of *Materialities of Ritual in the Black Atlantic*, Akinwumi Ogundiran and Paula Saunders, eds. *Journal of Ritual Studies* 32(2).
22. Crosson, J. Brent (2018). Review of *Spiritual Citizenship: Transnational Pathways from Black Power to Ifá in Trinidad*, N. Fadeke Castor. *AAR's Reading Religion*. <http://readingreligion.org/books/spiritual-citizenship>

MEDIA INTERVIEWS

- “The National Debate on Legalizing Obeah.” Observer Radio, 91.1 FM, Antigua and Barbuda, November 2015.
- “San Antonio Animal Sacrifice was Santería Practice, but was it Illegal?,” Elaine Ayala, *San Antonio Express News*, 23 March 2018.

WORKS IN PROGRESS

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles and Book Chapters

African Religion, Justice, and Police Violence in Trinidad. Invited Submission for *African Religion in the Public Sphere*, edited by Jacob Olupona. 100% complete and submitted.

The Afro of Sai Baba and the Powers of Osain: Assembling the Anthropology of Diasporic Religion. In Preparation. 90% complete, to be submitted to *Religion*.

Where the Ganges Meets the Nile: Re-Thinking the Politics of Syncretism and Mixture. In Preparation, 40% complete, to be submitted to *The Journal of the American Academy of Religion*.

A Scrap Iron Ark: Supply Chain Capitalism, Scrap Metal Theft, and Visions of the End Times in Trinidad. In Preparation, 40% complete, to be submitted to *Current Anthropology*.

Have We Ever Been Not Modern? The Caribbean and the Trouble with Modernity. 90% complete, to be submitted to *Comparative Studies in Society and History*.

The Sirs and the Misters: Esoteric Diasporas and the Trinidadian Kabbalah. In Preparation, 30% complete, to be submitted to *Nova Religio*.

Science and/as Obeah: Caribbean Spiritual Work and the Experimental Method. 80% complete to be submitted to *Cultural Anthropology*.

SELECTED AWARDS AND HONORS

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| 2020 | Summer Research Award, College of Liberal Arts, University of Texas at Austin |
| 2019 | Subvention Grant, President's Office, University of Texas at Austin |
| 2017-2020 | Lorenzo Long Institute for Latin American Studies/Mellon Foundation Summer Research Award |
| 2017-2019 | Warfield Center for African and African American Studies Summer Research Award |
| 2017-2020 | The Humanities Research Award, College of Liberal Arts, University of Texas at Austin |
| 2017 Summer | University of Texas Nominee, National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Stipend |
| 2017 Spring | Faculty Fellow, Humanities Institute, College of Liberal Arts, University of Texas at Austin |
| 2016 Fall | College Research Fellowship, College of Liberal Arts, University of Texas at Austin |
| 2016 | Summer Research Award, College of Liberal Arts, University of Texas at Austin |
| 2014-15 | Ruth S. Landes Memorial Research Fund Award, The Reed Foundation (\$47,000) |
| 2013-14 | American Council of Learned Societies/Mellon Foundation Dissertation Completion Fellowship (\$33,000) |
| 2013 | First Prize, Question of the Social Sciences Essay Competition, <i>Small Axe</i> , Duke University Press (Judged by David Scott and the editorial board of the Duke Univ. Press journal) |
| 2013 | The Richard Randolph Award for best graduate student essay, University of California- |

	Santa Cruz (\$1,000)
2013	Ruth S. Landes Memorial Research Fund, The Reed Foundation (\$32,000, declined)
2010-11	Fulbright IIE Research Fellowship, Trinidad and Tobago (\$18,000)
2009, 2011	Executive Vice Chancellor's Fellowship, University of California, Santa Cruz
2006, 2010	Regent's Fellowship, University of California Regents

PRESENTATIONS

INVITED TALKS

- “African Religion, Justice, and Police Violence in Trinidad.” Presentation for “Religion in the Public Sphere” symposium, Harvard University, Weatherhead Center for International Affairs. Cambridge, MA. December 2018.
- “Obeah Simplified? Occult Scientism and the Afflictions of Science in the Esoteric Atlantic.” Presentation for “Critical Approaches to Science and Religion” symposium. The Ohio University. Athens, OH. August 2019.
- “Fostering Connections Outside of U.S. Academia.” Keynote Lecture for the Fulbright Program Pre-Departure Orientation – Western Hemisphere. Austin, TX. June 2018.
- “The Political Theology of Stewardship and Climate Change in a Postcolonial Petro-State.” Presentation for “Religion and Climate Change in Cross-Regional Perspective” capstone seminar. American University, Washington D.C. May 2018.
- “Blood Lines: Race, Religion, and Sacrifice in Trinidad and Texas.” Presentation for “Religious Movement(s): Migration and Belief in the Americas” symposium, University of Virginia, Centro de las Américas/Americas Center. Charlottesville, VA. April 2018.
- “The Other Anthropocene.” Presentation in the panel “The Relationship Between Science and Religion in the Response to Climate Change,” Religion and Climate Change in Cross-Regional Perspective: Small Island Vulnerabilities in the Pacific and Caribbean, a workshop co-sponsored by American University and the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars with support from the Henry Luce Foundation, University of the West Indies. St. Augustine, Trinidad. October 2017.
- “Sounding the Depths: The Evidence of Science, Diasporic Religion, and Oil in Trinidad.” Global Politics and Religion Colloquium, Buffett Institute for Global Studies, Northwestern University. Evanston, IL. May 2016.
- “The Afro of Sai Baba and the Powers of Osain.” African Religions in the Americas Colloquium, Martin Marty Center for the Public Understanding of Religion, University of Chicago Divinity School. Chicago, IL. May 2016.

PUBLIC LECTURES

- “At the Crossroads: The Music and Philosophy of African Religions in Cuba, Trinidad, and Texas.” The George W. Carver African American History Museum, Austin, TX, January 2020, with master Cuban drummer Melena Francis Valdes.
- “Own People: Race, Altered Solidarities, and the Limits of Culture in Trinidad.” Lecture presented for the opening of the Four Corners exhibition, Che Lovelace Gallery, Trinidad and Tobago, 2014.
- “Moruga’s Forward-Thinking Legacies and its Stigmas of Backwardness.” Lecture presented at Bois Jen Jen Community Center, Moruga, Trinidad and Tobago, 2012, with Calypsonians Muchacho and Super Bhaji.
- “‘High Science’: A Conversation with J. Brent Crosson.” Featured talk in the Conversations in the Yard Series, Alice Yard Culture and Arts Center, Trinidad and Tobago, 2011.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- Respondent for "Author Meets Critics: J. Brent Crosson's Experiments with Power: Obeah and the Remaking of Religion (U of Chicago Press 2020)," session co-sponsored by Critical Theory and Discourses on Religion Unit and Religion, Colonialism, and Postcolonialism Unit, Annual meeting of the American Academy of Religion. Boston, MA. November 2020.
- “What is Justice?: The Work of the Dead and the Boundaries of Life.” Presentation in the panel “The Politics of Death and the Anthropology of Mourning,” a session sponsored by the Society for the Anthropology of Religion, Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association. Vancouver, Canada. November 2019.
- Discussant for the panel “Mobility and Migration,” Texas Asia Conference: Moving Beyond Barriers. Austin, TX. September 2019.
- Discussant for Alexander Rocklin’s *The Regulation of Religion and the Making of Hinduism in Colonial Trinidad*. Author Celebration Panel, Annual Meeting of the Caribbean Studies Association. Santa Marta, Colombia. June 2019.
- Discussant, Clifford Geertz Roundtable, Society for the Anthropology of Religion Biennial Meetings. Toronto, Canada. May 2019.
- Panelist, Jordan Peele’s *Us*: A Roundtable Discussion. Warfield Center for African and African American Studies. Austin, TX. April 2019.
- “‘The Earth is the Lord’ or ‘God is a Trini?’: The Political Theology of Climate Change and Petroleum Extraction.” Presentation for the AAA Executive Session: “Subversive Agencies: Sacred Landscapes and Climate Change in the Anthropocene.” Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association. San Jose, CA. November 2018
- “Intolerance Against African Religions in Texas Today.” Race, Ethnicity, Place Conference. Emma Barrientos Mexican American Cultural Center. Austin, TX. October 2018.
- “Tolerant but (not) Secular? The Universal Religion of God-Talk and its Particular Limits in Caribbean Politics.” Presentation for the panel "Religion, Race, and the Secular in the (Post)Colonial Caribbean," Caribbean Studies Association Annual Meetings, University of Havana, Cuba. June 2018
- “African Religions and Contemporary Religious Intolerance.” Presentation in the panel “What Color is the Sacred? Theorizing Race and Religion in African Diaspora Traditions,” KOSANBA and Haitian Studies Association Joint Meetings. New Orleans, LA. October 2017.

- “Altared Assemblages: Queering Metaphors of Mixture in the Caribbean.” Presentation in the panel “Marginal Epistemology: Race, Sexuality, and Nationality in Development,” Annual Meeting of the Caribbean Studies Association. Nassau, Bahamas. June 2017.
- “Altared Assemblages: Queering Metaphors of Mixture in the Caribbean.” Presentation in the panel “Queering Religion in the Caribbean and Beyond,” Annual Meeting of the Caribbean Studies Association. Nassau, Bahamas. June 2017.
- “Is God a Trini or a Rock?: Time, Nation, and Ontological Difference in Amerindian and African Rituals of Sovereignty.” Presentation in the panel “Ontology, Cosmology, and the Politics of Ethno-Racial Difference,” Biennial Meeting of the Society for the Anthropology of Religion section of the American Anthropological Association. New Orleans, LA. May 2017.
- “The Impossibility of Liberal Secularism.” Presentation in the panel “Superstition, Secularism, and Religion: Testing a Trinary,” a session of the Secularism and Secularity Group, Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion. San Antonio, TX. November 2016.
- Discussant, “Untying Threads: Race, Religion, and Performance in the Greater Caribbean,” panel sponsored by the Society for Latin American and Caribbean Anthropology, Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association. Minneapolis, MN. November 2016.
- “Sounding the Depths: The Evidence of Science, Oil, and Obeah in Trinidad.” Presentation in the panel “The Politics of Revelation,” a session sponsored by the Society for the Anthropology of Religion, Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association. Minneapolis, MN. November 2016.
- Roundtable Presentation, Panel on Caribbean Art and Culture, “Annalee Davis: This Ground Beneath My Feet--A Chorus of Bush in Rab Lands,” Warfield Center for African and African American Studies. Austin, TX. September 2016.
- “Dwelling on Crossing.” Presentation in the panel “At the Crossroads: Passages, Pluralisms, and Afterworlds,” Annual Meeting of the Caribbean Studies Association. Port-au-Prince, Haiti. July 2016.
- “Obeah is/as Science.” Presentation in the panel “On the Matter of Knowing in Afro-Caribbean Religions,” Annual Meeting of the Caribbean Studies Association. Port-au-Prince, Haiti. July 2016.
- “On Turning in the Grave: Law, Spirit Lash, and the Untimely Dead.” Presentation in the panel “Race, Representation and Discourse,” Annual Meeting of the Latin American Studies Association. New York, NY. May 2016.
- “Experiments with Power: Science and/As Obeah in Trinidad.” Presentation in “Magic, Science, Religion...and Secularism: Articulating Science Studies and Critical Studies of Secularism,” a session sponsored by the Society for Cultural Anthropology, Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association. Denver, CO. November 2015.
- Discussant, “Overwhelmed by Proximity: Figurations of Togetherness and Separation at the Margins of Liberalism,” sponsored by the Society for Cultural Anthropology, Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association. Denver, CO. November 2015.
- “Experiments with Power: Science, Obeah, and Religion in Trinidad.” Presentation in the panel “Science, Storytelling, and the Precarious Life of Evidence,” Annual Meeting of the Society for Social Studies of Science. Denver, CO. November 2015.
- “Religion against the Law: Re-Valuing Obeah in the Caribbean.” Presentation in “Negotiating the Religious-Secular Distinction in the Colonial Marketplace,” a joint session of the Law, Religion, and Culture Group and the Religion, Colonialism, and Postcolonialism Group, Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion. Atlanta, GA. November 2015.
- “The Political Theology of Hidden Powers: Obeah and Illiberal Relations in the Caribbean.” Presentation in the panel “Hidden Powers: The Politics of Caribbean Esotericism,” Annual Meeting of the Caribbean Studies Association. New Orleans, LA. May 2015.

- “Sai Baba’s Afro and the Powers of Osain: Alternatives to Syncretism from the South Caribbean.” Presentation in the panel “Beyond the Bounds of Syncretism: The Politics of Mixing Metaphors in the Multireligious Caribbean,” Annual Meeting of the Caribbean Studies Association. New Orleans, LA. May 2015.
- “Giving up on Proof: The Politics of Geological Evidence, Obeah, and Oil in Trinidad.” Presentation in the panel “The Mediumistic Trial: Testing and Contesting Mediumism between Science, Religion, and Morality Part 2,” Biennial Meeting of the Society for the Anthropology of Religion. San Diego, CA. April 2015.
- “Catching Power: The Limits of Possession and Sovereignty in the Caribbean.” Presentation in “What Possessed You: Spirits, Sovereignties, Selves (Parts I and II),” a session sponsored by the Society for the Anthropology of Religion, Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association. Washington, DC. December 2014.
- “Catching Power.” Presentation in “Bodies, Collectivity and Spirit: Challenging Agency,” a session of the Comparative Studies in Religion Section, Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion. San Diego, CA. November 2014.
- “Where the Ganges Meets the Nile.” Presentation in the panel “Negotiating Racial and Religious Border Crossings,” Annual Meeting of the Caribbean Studies Association. Merida, Mexico. May 2014.
- “‘The Ganges and the Nile:’ Healing, Harm, and Ethno-Religious Borderlands in Trinidad.” Presentation in “Charting Religious Migrations Across the Black Atlantic and the US-Mexico Borderlands,” a session sponsored by the Society for Cultural Anthropology, Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association. Chicago, IL. November 2013.
- “On Turning in the Grave: Obeah, Law, and the Lash of the Dead in the Southern Caribbean.” Presentation in the panel “Diasporic Spectres,” Biennial Meeting of the Association for the Study of the Worldwide African Diaspora Meetings. Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic. October 2013.
- “‘The Ganges and the Nile:’ Spiritual Work and Solidarity through Difference in Trinidad.” Presentation in the panel “Orisha, Obeah, and Kali Mai: Narratives of Ethnicity, Religion, and Development in Trinidad and Guyana,” Annual Meeting of the Caribbean Studies Association. Grand Anse, Grenada. May 2013.
- “Religious Synergies Without Syncretism: Healing, Harm and Solidarity through Difference in Trinidad.” Presentation in the panel “Ethnicity, Religion, and Cultural Difference,” Biennial Meeting of the Society for the Anthropology of Religion section of the American Anthropological Association. Pasadena, CA. April 2013.
- “Not Time to Dead: Science, Occult Economies and the Sorcery of the Law In the Contemporary Caribbean.” Presentation in the panel “Regimes of Invisibility,” a session sponsored by the Society for Cultural Anthropology, Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association. San Francisco, CA. November 2012.
- “Not Time to Dead.” On Activism and Academia Graduate Student Conference, Department of Anthropology, Stanford University. Palo Alto, CA. October 2012.
- “Citizenship and Superstition.” Presentation in the panel “On Acquiring a Spiritual Citizenship,” Annual Meeting of the Caribbean Studies Association. Le Gosier, Guadeloupe. May 2012.
- “Not Time to Dead: The Cares of the Murdered and the Sorcery of the Law.” Engaging Care in Emerging Worlds Graduate Student Conference, Department of Anthropology, University of California, Santa Cruz. Santa Cruz, CA. April 2012.
- “Spirits, Rationality and An Imagined Elsewhere: Locating “High Science” In Trinidad and Tobago.” Presentation in the panel “Science, Medicine, and the Paranormal in North American Contexts,” a session sponsored by the Society for the Anthropology of North America, Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association. Montreal, Canada. November 2011.

“Imagining Moruga.” Presentation in the panel “Discourses on Modernity and Socio-Cultural Hurdles,” Annual Meeting of the Caribbean Studies Association. Willemstad, Curaçao. June 2011.
“Spirits, Rationality and an Imagined Elsewhere: The Place of Moruga in a Postcolonial Geography.” Presentation in the panel “Situating Religion in the Post-Colony,” New Geographies: Studies in Postcoloniality and Globalization International Conference, University of the West Indies. St. Augustine, Trinidad & Tobago. March 2011.

ADVISING AND STUDENT-RELATED SERVICE

Doctoral Dissertations Supervised

University of Texas at Austin

Angela Tapia Arce, Latin American Studies, 2017-Present. (Dissertation Supervisor).

Doctoral Dissertation Committees

University of Texas at Austin

Xuefeng Feng, Asian Studies, 2017-Present. (Member)

Alexander Kreger, Religious Studies 2019-Present. (Member).

Lakayla C. Williams, African and African Diaspora Studies, 2019-Present. (Member).

University of Florida

Prea K. Persaud, Religion, 2016-Present (Member).

Graduate Qualifying Exam Committees

University of Texas at Austin

Xuefeng Feng, Asian Studies, 2016-2017. (Member).

Josh Urich, Religious Studies, 2016. (Member).

Alexander Kreger, Religious Studies, 2018-2019 (Member).

University of Florida

Prea K. Persaud, Religion, 2016. (Member).

Master's Committees

University of Texas at Austin

Ellen Roeder, Latin American Studies, 2017-2019.

University of the West Indies, Trinidad and Tobago

Department of Literary, Cultural, and Communication Studies, 2015-Present. (External Reviewer).

Undergraduate Theses

University of Texas at Austin

Miles Wilson, Plan II Honors Thesis, Religious Studies, 2017-18. (Second Reader)

ADMINISTRATIVE AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Departmental Service

University of Texas at Austin, Department of Religious Studies

Diversity Taskforce, Spring 2018-present.

Job Search Committee, "Maya Religion," as part of the Maya Archaeology, Environment, and Religion Cluster. 2019-2020.

Co-organizer and Presenter, "At the Crossroads: The Music and Philosophy of African Religions in Cuba, Trinidad, and Texas." UT Religion in Public Series, The George Washington Carver Museum, Austin, TX, January 2020 (with Melena Francis Valdes)

Organizer, "Black Power and African Religion" colloquium with Dr. N. Fadeke Castor (co-sponsored by the Warfield Center's African Diaspora series), 2018-19.

Independent Study, Alex Kreger (Religious Studies PhD student), Spring 2019

Independent Study, Megan Selander (Religious Studies PhD student), Spring 2019

Graduate Admissions and Fellowships Committee, 2016-17.

Organizer, Religions in the Americas Colloquium, Spring 2016, Fall 2018, Spring 2019.

"The Politics of Spiritual Practices." Lecture presented at the Department of Religious Studies Colloquium, 2016.

University of California, Santa Cruz

Guest Lecture, ANTH 2 Introduction to Cultural Anthropology, Prof. Lisa Rofel, 2014.

Co-Organizer, Matters out of Place- Graduate Student Conference, 2014.

Panelist, Panel on "Dirty Anthropology," Matters out of Place Graduate Student Conference, 2014.

Mentor, Anthropology Department Comrade Program, 2013-2014.

University and Local Service

University of Texas at Austin

Discussant, UT Asian Studies' Texas Asia Conference: Mobility and Migration, September 2019

Panelist, Roundtable on Jordan Peele's *Us*, Warfield Center for African and African American Studies, Spring 2019

Student Affairs Committee, College of Liberal Arts, Spring and Fall 2018

"Giving up on Proof: Science and Obeah in the Anglophone Caribbean." Lecture presented at the History and Philosophy of Science Colloquium, 2016.

Guest Lecture, AFR 317E Liberation in the African Diaspora, Prof. Minkah Makalani, 2016.

Panelist, Panel on Caribbean Art and Culture, "Annalee Davis: This Ground Beneath My Feet- A Chorus of Bush in Rab Lands," Warfield Center for African and African American Studies. September 2016.

"Sounding the Depths: Science, Obeah, and Oil in Trinidad." Lecture presented at the LLILAS New Faculty Presentation seminar series, Teresa Lozano Long Institute of Latin American Studies, 2016.

Independent Study Supervisor for Ellen Roeder (UT Austin Latin American Studies MA student), "Spiritual Warfare and Religious Intolerance," Spring 2018.

Directed Reading, "African Religions," Alex Costa Kott (UT Austin Latin American Studies PhD student), Spring 2020

New York University

"Experiments with Power: Science, Obeah, and the Legal Regulation of Religion." Lecture presented to the Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies, 2015.

Guest Lecture, LATC-GA 2030 Ethnographic Methods in Latin America and the Caribbean, Prof. Katherine Smith, 2015

University of California, Santa Cruz & Research Sites

"Own People: Race, Altered Solidarities, and the Limits of Culture in Trinidad." Lecture presented at the Che Lovelace Gallery, Trinidad and Tobago, 2014.

Co-organizer, "Four Corners." Research and Art Exhibition presented at the Che Lovelace Gallery, Trinidad and Tobago, 2014.

"Vodou, Voodoo, and the Politics of Religion in Haiti and the U.S." Guest Lecture for ANTH 122 Magic, Science and Religion course, Prof. Annapurna Pandey. Department of Anthropology, San Jose State University. San Jose, CA. February 2013.

"The Part Just Below the Tale: Moruga's Forward-Thinking Legacies and its Stigmas of Backwardness." Lecture presented at Bois Jen Jen Community Center, Moruga, Trinidad and Tobago, 2012.

Co-Founder, River of the Moon Guardians Foundation and One Family Farms, La Lune Village, Trinidad, 2011-Present.

"'High Science': A Conversation with J. Brent Crosson." Panel presented at the Conversations in the Yard Series, Alice Yard Culture and Arts Center, Trinidad and Tobago, 2011.

Co-Organizer, Midnight University multimedia forum. University of California-Santa Cruz, 2008.

Media Relations Intern, Kensington Welfare Rights Union, Philadelphia, PA. 2000-2001.

Professional Service

Steering Committee Member, Critical Theory and Discourses Group, American Academy of Religion, 2018-Present.

Editorial Board Member, *Cosmologies*, Harvard Science, Religion, and Culture program, 2018-Present.

Discussant, Clifford Geertz Roundtable in Honor of Fadeke Castor's *Spiritual Citizenship*, Society for the Anthropology of Religion Meetings, Toronto, 2019.

Discussant, Author Celebration for Alexander Rocklin's *The Making of Hinduism in Colonial Trinidad*, Caribbean Studies Association Meetings, Santa Marta, Colombia, 2019.

Discussant, "Untying Threads: Race, Religion, and Performance in the Greater Caribbean," panel sponsored by the Society for Latin American and Caribbean Anthropology, Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association. Minneapolis, MN. November 2016.

Organizer, "The Politics of Revelation," panel sponsored by the Society for the Anthropology of Religion, Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association. Minneapolis, MN. November 2016.

Panel Chair, Panel on "At the Crossroads: Passages, Pluralisms, and Afterworlds," Annual Meeting of the Caribbean Studies Association. Port-au-Prince, Haiti. July 2016.

Discussant, "Overwhelmed by Proximity: Figurations of Togetherness and Separation at the Margins of Liberalism," sponsored by the Society for Cultural Anthropology, Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association. Denver, CO. November 2015.

Panel Chair, Panel on “Hidden Powers: The Politics of Caribbean Esotericism,” Annual Meeting of the Caribbean Studies Association. New Orleans, LA. May 2015.

Panel Chair, Panel on “The Mediumistic Trial: Testing and Contesting Mediumism between Science, Religion, and Morality,” Biennial Meeting of the Society for the Anthropology of Religion section of the American Anthropological Association. San Diego, CA. April 2015.

Organizer and Chair, Panel on “What Possessed You: Spirits, Sovereignties, Selves (Parts I and II),” sponsored by the Society for the Anthropology of Religion, Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association. Washington, DC. December 2014.

Panel Chair, Panel on “Negotiating Racial and Religious Border Crossings,” Annual Meeting of the Caribbean Studies Association. Merida, Mexico. May 2014.

Co-Chair with Rachel Nelson, Panel on “Diasporic Spectres,” Transformative Visions: Confronting Change and Creating Opportunity in Africa and the African Diaspora Biennial Meeting of the Association for the Study of the Worldwide African Diaspora Meetings. Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic. October 2013.

Panel Chair, Panel on “Orisha, Obeah, and Kali Mai: Narratives of Ethnicity, Religion, and Development in Trinidad and Guyana,” Annual Meeting of the Caribbean Studies Association. Grand Anse, Grenada. May 2013.

Panel Chair, Panel on “Ethnicity, Religion, and Cultural Difference,” Biennial Meeting of the Society for the Anthropology of Religion section of the American Anthropological Association. Pasadena, CA. April 2013.

Peer Reviewer (ad hoc since 2013)

Current Anthropology
American Anthropologist
American Ethnologist
Cultural Anthropology
Canadian Journal of Latin American and Caribbean Studies
Comparative Studies in Society and History
Gastronomica: The Journal of Food and Culture

Professional Memberships

American Academy of Religion, 2013-Present
American Anthropological Association, 2008-Present
Caribbean Studies Association, 2011-Present
KOSANBA: A Scholarly Association for the Study of Haitian Vodou, 2017-2018
Latin American Studies Association, 2015-2016
Society for Social Studies of Science, 2015-2016, 2019
Association for the Study of the Worldwide African Diaspora, 2013-2014

Languages

U.S. English (native), Spanish (fluent), Trinidad English/Creole (fluent), French (basic), Hindi (basic)