

## **TOBIN MILLER SHEARER**

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EDUCATION: **Northwestern University**, Evanston, Illinois  
Ph.D. in History and Religion, 2008; M.A. in History and Religion, 2003  
Dissertation: *'A Pure Fellowship': The Danger and Necessity of Purity in White and African-American Mennonite Racial Exchange, 1935-1971*  
Advisors: Josef Barton (History), Fred Kniss (Sociology), Sarah Taylor (Religion), Cristina Traina (Religion)

**Eastern Mennonite College**, Harrisonburg, Virginia  
B.A. in English Literature, summa cum laude, 1987

RESEARCH INTERESTS: Religion and protest; Race in American religion; U.S. Civil Rights Movement; innocence in childhood; teaching pedagogy

### RESEARCH GRANTS AND AWARDS:

2017, **Humanities Institute**, University of Montana, Summer Stipend award

2014, selected for **National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Institute**, "Finding Mississippi in the National Civil Rights Narrative: Struggle, Institution Building, and Power at the Local Level," Jackson State University, Jackson, MS

2014, 2012, University of Montana nominee for **U.S. Professor of the Year**

2013, awarded **National Endowment for the Humanities**-sponsored grant to bring "Created Equal: America's Civil Rights Struggle" to UM (in collaboration with Associate Professor Rob Saldin, Political Science)

2012, awarded **National Endowment For the Humanities**-sponsored Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History grant to bring the "Civil War 150" traveling exhibition to UM (in collaboration with Associate Professor Rob Saldin, Political Science)

2012, Finalist, New Directions in the Study of Prayer, **Social Science Research Council/Templeton Foundation**

2011, awarded **National Endowment For the Humanities**-sponsored American Library Association grant to bring the "Lincoln: The Constitution and the Civil War" traveling exhibition to UM (in collaboration with

Assistant Professor Rob Saldin, Political Science)

2009, 2012 University Grant, **University of Montana** University Research and Creativity Committee

2008, Marion McFarland Taylor Prize for Best Paper on Religion, Environment, and Sustainability, **Midwest American Academy of Religion**, for the paper “‘Chickens, Crops, and Tractors’: Fresh Air Exchange Programs and the Making of a Mechanized Eden, 1950-1979.”

2007, First Place, John Horsch Mennonite History Essay Context, Graduate School Category, **Mennonite Historical Committee**, for the paper “Looking Past Legality: Interracial Marriage and the Mennonite Church, 1930-1971”

2006, Presidential Fellowship, **Northwestern University**, one of six, two-year full fellowships annually awarded to graduate students, described by the graduate school as Northwestern’s most prestigious graduate honor

2006, **Louisville Institute** Dissertation Year Fellowship, a competitive national fellowship for the study of Christianity

2005, Internet Technologies Humanities Committee Dissertation Support Grant, **Northwestern University**

2005, **Northwestern University** History Department Graduate Travel Grant

2004, **Northwestern University** Graduate Research Grant

2004, Recipient of **Northwestern University** African American Studies Department Research Grant

1995, Finalist in **New York International Film Festival** for *FREE INDEED: Of White Privileges and How We Play the Game* (1995), screenplay co-author

TEACHING  
AWARDS:

2017, Mortarboard Society, Last Lecturer, **University of Montana**

2017, Best University of Montana Professor, *Missoula Independent*

2017, Nancy Borgmann Diversity Award, **University of Montana**

2016, Distinguished Teaching Award, **University of Montana**

2013, Helen and Winston Cox Educational Excellence Award, College of Arts and Sciences, **University of Montana**

2012, Paul Lauren Undergraduate Research Faculty Mentor Award, Davidson Honors College, **University of Montana**

2006, Lacey Baldwin Smith Prize for Teaching Excellence, awarded annually by **Northwestern University's** History Department to the student instructor with the highest teaching evaluations

2005, Lacey Baldwin Smith Prize for Teaching Excellence, awarded annually by **Northwestern University's** History Department to the student teaching assistant with the highest teaching evaluations

2005, **Northwestern University** Outstanding Graduate Student Teacher Award, awarded annually to one student in the Humanities from all practicing student instructors, **Northwestern University**

BOOKS:

*Two Weeks Every Summer: Fresh Air Children and the Problem of Race in America* (Cornell University Press, 2017).

*Daily Demonstrators: The Civil Rights Movement in Mennonite Homes and Sanctuaries* (Johns Hopkins Press, 2010).

*Set Free: A Journey Toward Solidarity Against Racism* (Herald Press, 2001) (co-authored with Iris de León-Hartshorn and Regina Shands Stoltzfus).

*Enter the River: Healing Steps from White Privilege to Racial Reconciliation* (Herald Press, 1994).

CHAPTERS:

“Hope’s Vagaries: How Ta-Nehisi Coates and Vincent Harding Convinced Me that Hope Is Not the Only Option,” in *Between the World of Ta-nehisi Coates and Christianity*, edited by Peter Dula and David Evans (Cascade: Forthcoming, Spring 2018).

“‘Buttcheek to Buttcheek in the Pew’: Interracial Relationalism at a Mennonite Congregation, 1957-2010,” in *Christians and the Color Line: Race and Religion after Divided by Faith*, edited by Rusty Hawkins and Phillip Luke Sinitiere (Oxford University Press, 2013), 100-127.

“Feathering Forman: Reframing the Black Manifesto, 1965-1971,” in *Faith and Race in American Political Life*, edited by Robin Jacobson and Nancy Wadsworth (University of Virginia Press, 2011), 207-230.

“Whitening Conflicts: White Racial Identity Formation within Mennonite Central Committee, 1960-1985,” in *A Table of Sharing* (Cascadia Press, 2011), 215-238.

“Whites Should Examine White Privilege,” in *Racism* (Greenhaven Press, 2004), 140-145.

“Race and Power,” in *Making Peace with Conflict: Practical Skills for Conflict Transformation*, edited by Carolyn Schrock-Shenk and Lawrence Ressler (Herald Press, 1999), 139-145 (co-authored with Angel Ocasio).

ACADEMIC  
ARTICLES:

“Civil Rights and Protest Movements,” *Encyclopedia of Religious Ethics*, ed. William Schweiker (Wiley, 2018 forthcoming).

“White Mennonite Peacemakers: Of Oxymorons, Grace, and Nearly Thirty Years of Talking About Whiteness,” *Conrad Grebel Review*, 35, number 3 (Fall 2017): 259-266.

“Telling A Fuller Story,” *Mennonite Life*, 71, Special Issue “Why 500 Years?” (June 2017): <https://ml.bethelks.edu/issue/vol-71-special-issue-why-500-years/article/telling-a-fuller-story/>.

“Managing Crisis and Conflict in the Religious Studies Classroom,” *Spotlight on Teaching, Religious Studies News* (May 2017): 5-9: <http://rsn.aarweb.org/node/443>.

“A Principled Pedagogy for Religious Educators,” *Religious Education*, (co-authored with David Evans), 12, number 1 (January 2017): <http://dx.doi.org.weblib.lib.umt.edu:8080/10.1080/00344087.2016.1256367>

“Mennonites,” *Oxford Bibliographies in Atlantic History*, (November 2016): [www.oxfordbibliographies.com](http://www.oxfordbibliographies.com).

“The Problem of Kindness - Christian Fresh Air Missions and the Dynamics of Christian Whiteness,” *Journal of Childhood and Religion*, 6, number 3 (December 2015): <http://childhoodandreligion.com/issues/volume-6-2015/>.

“Striking at the Sacred: The Violence of Prayer, 1960-1969,” *Open Theology* 1 (2015): 126–133: <http://www.degruyter.com/view/j/opth.2014.1.issue-1/issue-files/opth.2014.1.issue-1.xml> (DOI 10.1515/opth-2015-0002).

“A Prophet Pushed Out: Vincent Harding and the Mennonites,” *Mennonite Life* 69 (2015): <http://ml.bethelks.edu/issue/vol-69/article/a-prophet-pushed->

[out-vincent-harding-and-the-menno/](#).

“Invoking Crisis: Performative Christian Prayer and the Civil Rights Movement,” *Journal of the American Academy of Religion* 83, no. 2 (2015): 490-512.

“Conflicting Identities: White Racial Formation Among Mennonites, 1960-1985,” *Identities: Global Studies in Culture and Power* 19, no. 3 (2012): 268-284.

“Outlines, Early Mornings, and The Oatmeal Insight,” *UM Writes* (March 1, 2012), <http://umwritingcenter.wordpress.com/2012/03/01/27/>.

“A Pleasing Observation,” *Chronicle of Higher Education* (March 6, 2012), <http://chronicle.com/article/A-Pleasing-Observation/131074/>.

“More Than Fresh Air: African-American Children’s Influence on Mennonite Religious Practice, 1950-1979,” *The Journal of Race, Ethnicity and Religion* 2, no. 7 (May 2011): [http://www.raceandreligion.com/JRER/Volume\\_2\\_%282011%29.html](http://www.raceandreligion.com/JRER/Volume_2_%282011%29.html).

“Daily Demonstrators: The Civil Rights Movement in Mennonite Homes and Sanctuaries,” *Mennonite Life* 65 (Summer 2011): [http://www.bethelks.edu/mennonitelife/2011/daily\\_demonstrators.php](http://www.bethelks.edu/mennonitelife/2011/daily_demonstrators.php).

“‘Chickens, Crops, and Tractors’: The Use of Machines as Sacred Resource in Mennonite Fresh Air Hosting Programs,” *The Journal for the Study of Religion, Nature & Culture* 4, no. 3 (Fall 2010): 153-181.

“Moving Beyond Charisma in Civil Rights Scholarship: Vincent Harding’s Sojourn With the Mennonites, 1958-1966,” *Mennonite Quarterly Review* 82, no. 2 (April 2008): 213-248.

“Laws of Attraction Vs. Sentiments of Separation,” *Mennonite Historical Bulletin* 68, no. 4 (2007): 2-9, 15.

“How I Became a Worse Teacher Who Was Also a Good Bit Better,” *Searle Center for Teaching Excellence Newsletter*, Spring 2006.

BOOK REVIEWS: *Southern Mercy: Empire and American Civilization in Juvenile Reform, 1890-1944*, Annette Louise Bickford (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2016) in *Journal of the History of Childhood and Youth* (forthcoming).

*Richmond's Priests and Prophets: Race, Religion, and Social Change in the*

*Civil Rights Era*, Douglas E. Thompson (Tuscaloosa, AL: University of Alabama Press, 2017) in *Reading Religion* (December 29, 2017):  
<http://readingreligion.org/books/richmonds-priests-and-prophets>

*California Mennonites*, Brian Froese (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins Press, 2015) in *Reading Religion* (May 19, 2016):  
<http://readingreligion.org/books/california-mennonites>.

*Latino Mennonites: Civil Rights, Faith, And Evangelical Culture*, Felipe Hinojosa (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins Press, 2014) in *Journal of Mennonite Studies* 33 (2015): 313-315.

*Mississippi Praying: Southern White Evangelicals and the Civil Rights Movement, 1945-1975*, Carolyn Renée Dupont (New York: New York University Press, 2013) in *Journal of Mississippi History* (Fall 2013): 294-96.

*The Constructed Mennonite: History, Memory, and the Second World War*, Hans Werner (Winnipeg, Manitoba: University of Manitoba Press, 2013) in *Journal of American Ethnic History* 34, no. 2 (Winter, 2015): 116-118.

*Jim Crow's Counterculture: The Blues and Black Southerners 1890-1945*, R. A. Lawson (Baton Rouge, LA: Louisiana State University Press, 2010) in *Journal of Southern Religion* 15 (2013):  
<http://jsr.fsu.edu/issues/vol15/shearer.html>.

*Quaker Brotherhood: Interracial Activism and the American Friends Service Committee, 1917-1950*, Allan W. Austin (Chicago: University of Illinois Press, 2012), in *Journal of Religion* 93, no. 3 (July 2013): 389-91.

*Freedom's Prophet: Bishop Richard Allen, the AME Church, and the Black Founding Fathers*, Richard S. Newman (New York: New York University Press, 2008), in *Montana Professor* 20, no. 1 (Fall 2009): 27-29.

*Fostering Student Success in the Campus Community*, Gary L. Kramer, ed. (San Francisco: Jossey-Bass, 2007), in *Teaching Theology and Religion*, 12, no. 3, July 2009, 287.

VIDEO SCRIPTS: *The Myth of Race*, Akron, PA: Mennonite Central Committee (MCC), 2000 (with Regina Shands Stoltzfus).

*Free Indeed: Of White Privileges and How We Play the Game*. Screenplay co-author. MCC, 1995. (Finalist in New York International Film Festival.)

CURRICULUM:

*Journeys with God: Anabaptist History*. Lancaster, PA: Mennonite Secondary Education Council, 2004.

*Leap, Twist, Spy, Listen: Doing Nonviolence*. Elkhart, IN: Mennonite Church USA, 2001.

*Racism and Wisdom Literature, Link High School Bible Study*. Scottsdale, PA: Herald Press, 1998.

*Living Without Violence*. Newton, KS: Faith and Life, 1994.

*Challenging Racism*. Newton, KS: Faith and Life, 1993.

POPULAR  
ESSAYS:

“The Martin Luther King Who Haunted Me,” *ExtraNewsFeed*, January 28, 2018, <https://extranewsfeed.com/the-martin-luther-king-who-haunted-me-82bd21561640>

“Can Violence Build God’s Kingdom?,” *Anabaptist Historians*, September 28, 2017, <https://anabaptisthistorians.org/2017/09/28/can-violence-build-gods-kingdom/>

“Seven Roadblocks that Get in the Way of Dismantling Racism in the Church and Society (and Strategies to Overcome Them),” *The Mennonite*, August 14, 2017, <https://themennonite.org/seven-roadblocks-get-way-dismantling-racism-church-society-strategies-overcome/>

“Fannie Swartzentruber, Ecclesial Gaslighting, and The Witness of Holy Disruption,” *Anabaptist Historians*, July 13, 2017, <https://anabaptisthistorians.org/2017/07/13/fannie-swartzentruber-ecclesial-gaslighting-and-the-witness-of-holy-disruption/>.

“The Fresh Air Fund’s Complicated Racial Record,” *Chicago Tribune*, June 19, 2017, [https://www.chicagotribune.com%2Fsns-the-fresh-air-funds-complicated-racial-record-78733-20170616-story.html&usg=AFQjCNFloIUSjeg9UE7VnOQR\\_ToV94DZaw](https://www.chicagotribune.com%2Fsns-the-fresh-air-funds-complicated-racial-record-78733-20170616-story.html&usg=AFQjCNFloIUSjeg9UE7VnOQR_ToV94DZaw).

“I Investigated the Fresh Air Fund’s Fraught Racial History, and They Didn’t Make It Easy,” *Timeline.com*, May 10, 2017, <https://timeline.com/fresh-air-fund-race-3eaa365a741b>.

“Money, Sex, and Power: The Black Manifesto and the Minority Ministries Council,” *Anabaptist Historians*, April 13, 2017, <https://anabaptisthistorians.org/2017/04/13/money-sex-and-power-the-black-manifesto-and-the-minority-ministries-council/>.

“Good Direction and Great Strength,” *The Mennonite*, April 5, 2017, <https://themennonite.org/lent-reflection-4/>.

“Watchlisted,” *Missoula Independent*, December 15, 2016, <http://missoulanews.bigskypress.com/missoula/what-to-do-when-they-come-looking-for-you/Content?oid=3284461>.

“On Being a Watch Listed Historian in the Age of Donald Trump,” *Anabaptist Historians*, December 8, 2016, <https://anabaptisthistorians.org/2016/12/08/on-being-a-watch-listed-historian-in-the-age-of-donald-trump/>.

“What is Behind the Turkey Pardoning Ritual?” *PBS NewsHour*, November 23, 2016, [www.pbs.org/newshour/rundown/behind-turkey-pardoning-ritual/](http://www.pbs.org/newshour/rundown/behind-turkey-pardoning-ritual/).

“The Deepest Dichotomy: How A Sixty-Five-Year-Old Essay on Racism Helped Me Learn A Lesson From Before I Was Born,” *Anabaptist Historians*, September 9, 2016, <https://anabaptisthistorians.org/2016/09/08/the-deepest-dichotomy-how-a-sixty-five-year-old-essay-on-racism-helped-me-learn-a-lesson-from-before-i-was-born/>.

“Police Officers Need Equipping to Deal with Racial Realities,” *The Missoulian*, July 18, 2016, [http://missoulian.com/news/opinion/columnists/police-officers-need-equipping-to-deal-with-racial-realities/article\\_e0423394-66ae-5dd2-bedc-4bfd113de1fc.html](http://missoulian.com/news/opinion/columnists/police-officers-need-equipping-to-deal-with-racial-realities/article_e0423394-66ae-5dd2-bedc-4bfd113de1fc.html).

“The Mennonite Church, Racism, and Whiteness: Are We Ready Now?” *The Mennonite*, July 18, 2016, <https://themennonite.org/feature/mennonite-church-racism-whiteness-two-reflections/>.

“Of Rachel Dolezal and Racial Identity,” *Reflections West*, Montana Public Radio Commentary, February 2016, Year 6, Episode 131, [http://www.reflectionswest.org/episodes/ep131\\_shearer.php](http://www.reflectionswest.org/episodes/ep131_shearer.php).

“Faith, Race, and Forgiveness,” *The Mennonite*, October 13, 2015, <https://themennonite.org/faith-race-and-forgiveness/>.

“Gifts Worth Remembering at Graduation,” *The Missoulian*, May 19, 2015.

“Why Ferguson Matters to Missoula,” *The Missoulian*, December 3, 2014.

- “White Spiritual and Racial Formation: Three Conversions,” *The Mennonite*, December 2013.
- “A Scrawny Kind of Love,” *Conspire*, Vol. 5, No. 4, Fall 2013.
- “Lament Sung to My Sons,” *Conspire*, Vol. 5, No. 1, Winter 2013.
- “I am a White Man Who Lives in Montana and Teaches Black History,” *Reflections West*, Montana Public Radio Commentary, Year 3, Episode 61, air date December 12, 2012,  
[http://www.reflectionswest.org/episodes/ep61\\_shearer.php](http://www.reflectionswest.org/episodes/ep61_shearer.php).
- “Twelve Signs of the Kingdom at a Clumsy Congregation,” *The Mennonite*, November 2012.
- “Protest and the Power of Images: From Birmingham in 1963 to Davis in 2011, Those Who Repress Dissent Are Put on Public Display.” *The Missoulian*, Tuesday, November 29, 2011, 4.
- “Supper Club, Keith Wilson, and the Twigs of Grace,” *The Mennonite*, February 2010.
- “Bag the Baggage: Ten Ways to Shuck the Weight of Short-Term Missions,” *With*, July/August 2002.
- “When Doing Good Does Bad,” *With*, July/August 2002.
- “White Spaces,” *The Other Side*, March & April 2002.
- “Angels and a Dork,” *With*, March/April 2002.
- “Racism Kicks Back, God Heals The Wounds,” *Purpose*, November 4, 2001.
- “An Open Letter to Alex Chadwick of National Public Radio,” *The Mennonite*, September 25, 2001.
- “Spitwads: A Re-Telling of Mark 8:22-26,” *With*, November/December 2001.
- “Quieted by the Land,” *The Mennonite*, June 19, 2001.
- “Following Fake Latinos,” *The Mennonite*, May 1, 2001.

“Fake Latinos,” *The Mennonite*, January 9, 2001.

“Pearls, Swine and Beloved,” *The Mennonite*, December 29, 1998.

“Wall of History as Ritual and Remembering,” *Conciliation Quarterly*, Summer 1998.

“What’s in a name?” *The Mennonite*, April 14, 1998.

“A Word from God: ‘I will change your name,’” *Christian Living*, March 1998.

“Where on the Damascus Road? Reflections for Urban Peacemaking,” *Urban Connections*, Fall 1997.

“Public Schools: Learning with the Neighbors,” *Christian Living*, September 1997.

“Mennonites and Racism: Much Work to Do,” *The Mennonite*, January 14, 1997.

“Has Change Come?” *a Common Place*, May 1996.

“Categorical Denial: Racism, Identity and the Possibility of Change,” *Christian Leader*, January 1996.

“A Quiz on Racism,” *The Mennonite*, January 9, 1996.

“Everyday Peacemaking,” *With*, December 1995.

“Butter Sandwiches, Train Rides, and Affirmative Action,” *Gospel Herald*, October 31, 1995.

“Beyond Easy: Building Racial Reconciliation,” *The Christian Ministry*, May-June, 1995.

“Why is it so hard to talk about racism?” *Gospel Herald*, November 22, 1994.

“Stopping the Hate,” *With*, July-August 1994.

“Waiting for a dream,” *Christian Living*, April-May 1994.

“Racism and a Running White Boy,” *Builder*, January 1993.

“A Gift of Grace in Red, White and Blue,” *Urban Connections*, Fall 1992.

“Nobody Should Die: Children's Wishes in the City,” *Christian Living*, September 1992.

“A Clumsy Juggler Finds Grace,” *Christian Living*, July 1992.

“Race Relations: Three Paradigms,” *Conciliation Quarterly*, Spring 1992.

“Christians Must Work Against Subtle Racism,” *Mennonite Weekly Review*, September 5, 1991.

“Ripped Off,” *Intercom*, January 1991.

“A Psalm for the People of New Orleans,” *Contact*, November 1990.

“Avoiding Burnout: Keeping a Vision while Volunteering,” *Southern Perspectives*, Spring 1990.

“Behind the Bars of Racism,” *Gospel Herald*, April 25, 1989.

“In the Presence of My Enemies,” *Gospel Herald*, August 23, 1988.

“Promises Not Fulfilled,” *Blueprint for Social Justice*, September 1987 (with A. J. Gallese).

“There's a Warm Wind Blowing in Chinandega,” *Christian Living*, August 1986.

“Anger and Joy,” *Gospel Herald*, July 8, 1986.

“They See with New Eyes,” *WMSC Voice*, May 1986.

“To Sit in Silence,” *With*, November 1984.

INVITED LECTURES: “Making Struggle Count: Lessons From the Civil Rights Movement,”  
**Montana State University Northern**, January 16, 2018

“How To Be A White Guy: A Last Lecture on Punching Nazis, Baking Pies, and How Not To Be A Douche Bag,” **Mortar Board National Honor Society**, University of Montana, September 28, 2017

“Fresh Air Children and the Problem of Race in America,” **Heyman Center**

**for the Humanities**, Columbia University, April 28, 2017

“Fresh Air Children and the Problem of Race in America,” **University of Albany**, SUNY, April 26, 2017

“The Legacy of the Black Manifesto in the Mennonite Church,” Black, Brown, and Mennonite: Lessons from the Chicano, Puerto Rican, and Black Freedom Movements for the Mennonite Church, **Greencroft/Goshen College**, March 31, 2017

“The Limits of Censorship in an Age of Respectable Racism,” **Black Student Union/Student Involvement Network**, University of Montana, February 10, 2017.

“Sex, Seven Sass: The Negotiation of Racial Identity in Fresh Air Rural Hosting Programs, 1939-1979,” **Eastern Mennonite University**, January 20, 2016.

“Homing In: The Effects of WWI on Black Women and Men,” **Mansfield Library**, University of Montana, February 26, 2015.

“Why Ferguson Matters to Whitworth: The Importance of Black History to Us All,” **Whitworth College**, February 17, 2015

“Unlocking the Mystery of the Plain People: The Amish, Mennonites, and Hutterites in the Anabaptist Movement,” **UM/MSU Alumni Association**, Great Falls College, MT, January 22, 2015

“The White Church and the Murder of Black Men: A Critique of Christian Whiteness,” Religion and Politics in American Public Life lecture series, **Columbia University**, New York, NY, November 20, 2014

“The Wrong Question: Toward Racially Equipped Congregations,” **Unitarian Universalist Congregation**, Missoula, MT, April 14, 2014

“White State: Unpacking White Privilege in Montana,” Sustained Dialogue session, **Montana State University**, Bozeman, MT, January 28, 2014

“In a Place that it Shouldn’t Thrive: The Future of African-American Studies at UM,” Keynote lecture, **Black Studies Reunion**, University of Montana, Friday, September 20, 2013

“Prayer, Guns, and Civil Rights: How to Craft New Research Questions,” **University of Montana** Undergraduate Research Conference, Plenary

address, April 13, 2012

“Prayer, Guns and the Civil Rights Movement: Disrupting the Grassroots/Elite Leadership Debate,” **Bluffton University**, Bluffton, OH, January 11, 2011

“Daily Demonstrators: The Civil Rights Movement in Mennonite Homes and Sanctuaries,” **Trinity Christian College**, Chicago, IL, February 15, 2010

“Daily Demonstrators: The Civil Rights Movement in Mennonite Homes and Sanctuaries,” **University of Montana Philosophy Forum**, March 3, 2009

“The Trails we Trod From Uncle Tom’s Cabin,” **University of Montana Alumni Association**, February 23, 2010

“A Racial History of Prayer,” **Associated Mennonite Biblical Seminary**, Elkhart, IN, January 15, 2009

“Christianity and Race in America,” **St. Augustine’s Episcopal Church**, Wilmette, IL, January 4, 11, 2009

RESEARCH

PRESENTATIONS:

“Grass, Concrete, Color: Fresh Air Children and the Racialization of Place, 1939-1979,” (Dis)location: Race and Place In the Fresh Air Movement, Fostering on the Farm and Child Incarceration, **Society for the History of Children and Youth**, Rutgers University, Camden, NJ, June 22, 2017

“Dislocation, Relocation, Cultivation: Pedagogical Strategies for Reaching White Mennonites,” Mennonite Scholars and Friends, **American Academy of Religion**, San Antonio, TX, November 18, 2016

“White Mennonite Peacemakers: Of Oxymorons, Grace, and Nearly Thirty Years of Talking About Whiteness,” Mennonites and the Wages of Whiteness, **Global Mennonite Peacemaking Conference**, Kitchener-Waterloo, Ontario, Canada, June 11, 2016

“Vincent Harding’s Academic/Activist Union: The Mennonite Roots, 1960-1965,” Black Religious History section, **American Academy of Religion**, Atlanta, GA, November 22, 2015.

“Striking at the Sacred: The Violence of Prayer, 1961-1966,” North American Religions Section, **American Academy of Religion**, San Diego, CA, November 23, 2014

“Welcome to the University of Montana: Introduction to our scholars,” moderator, **Thinking Its Presence: Race and Creative Writing**, University of Montana, Missoula, MT, April 10, 2014

“Devotion Deliverance: Public Prayer As A Civil Rights Strategy,” Activism(s) in the Black Diaspora, **Association for the Study of the Worldwide African Diaspora**, Santo Domingo, DR, October 31, 2013

“Invoking Crisis: Performative Prayer and the Civil Rights Movement,” North American Religions Section, **American Academy of Religion**, Chicago, IL, November 18, 2012

“An Innocent Exchange: Rural Hosting Programs and Civil Rights, 1955-1968,” **Association for the Study of African-American Life and History**, Richmond, VA, October 8, 2011

“Prayer, Guns, and Civil Rights: Beyond the Grassroots-Elite Debate over Civil Rights Movement Leadership,” **Association for African American Historical Research and Preservation**, Seattle, WA, February 6, 2011

“More than Fresh Air: African-American Children’s Influence on Mennonite Religious Practice, 1950–1979,” Afro-American Religious History Section, **American Academy of Religion**, Atlanta, GA, October 31, 2010

“Whitening Conflicts: White Racial Identity Formation within Mennonite Central Committee, 1960-1985,” **A Table of Sharing: Mennonite Central Committee and the Expanding Networks of Mennonite Identity**, Akron, PA, June 2010

Chair and respondent to papers: Dr. Sheila H. Gillams (Medgar Evers College, CUNY) “From Crucifixion to Resurrection: The Activist Theology of Anna Arnold Hedgeman”; Dr. Barclay Key (Western Illinois University) “Faith and Race in 1968: Day of Reckoning in a Biracial Church”; Dr. Edward J. Robinson (Abilene Christian University) “Annie C. Tuggle: A Forgotten “Pillar” in African American Churches of Christ,” **Association for African American Historical Research and Preservation**, Seattle University, March 21, 2009

“Daily Demonstrators: African-American Fresh Air Children as Civil Rights Actors, 1950-1971,” **University of Chicago**, April 2008

“‘Chickens, Crops, and Tractors’: Fresh Air Exchange Programs and the

Making of a Mechanized Eden, 1950-1979,” **Midwest American Academy of Religion**, Dominican University, River Forest, Illinois, April 2008

“Reinterpreting Religious Identity at the Border Between Activism and Withdrawal: Vincent Harding’s Sojourn with the Mennonites, 1958-1966,” **Boston College**, Boston, Massachusetts, March 2008

“The Mennonite Prayer Veil, Resistance, and a Different Kind of Freedom Struggle, 1935-1970,” **Goshen College**, Goshen, Indiana, October 2007

“From Streets and Sidewalks to Living Rooms and Lounges: Shifting the Civil Rights Gaze,” On the Whys, Hows and Wheretofores of Graduate School, **Northwestern University**, May 2007

“Beneath a Velvet Covering: How Women Resisted Mennonite Racial Segregation, 1940-1971,” **Midwest American Academy of Religion**, Dominican University, River Forest, Illinois, March 2007

“The Danger of Purity,” **Louisville Institute**, Lilly Endowment program for the study of American religion, National Winter Conference for Dissertation Year Fellowship winners, Louisville, Kentucky, January 2007

“From Purity to Pollutants: Interracial Marriage, Mennonites, and Petri Dishes,” **Northwestern University** Presidential Fellows Fall Retreat, Northbrook, Illinois, October 2006

“The Tottering Torah: Prayer as Community-controlling Narrative Among Reconstructionist Jews,” Narrative Matters: An Interdisciplinary Conference on the Storied Nature of Human Experience: Fact & Fiction, **Acadia University**, Wolfville, Nova Scotia, Canada, May 2006

“The Beemer Surprise: An Ethical Ground for Otto’s Numinous,” Encountering The Other: A Conference on Religious Arguments for Tolerance and Hospitality, **Notre Dame University**, Notre Dame, Indiana, April 2006

“The Violence of Purity: Northeastern Mennonites and the Black Manifesto, 1969,” **Midwest American Academy of Religion**, Dominican University, River Forest, Illinois, April 2006

“Building Religious Identity Through Mission Activity: White Mennonite Involvement in ‘Fresh Air’ Rural Visitation Programs, 1949-1971,” Conference on the History of Religion, **Boston College**, Chestnut Hill, Massachusetts, March 2006

“Transformation of databases of documents, images, sound into an integrated body of documentation for work on Mennonite social movements,” Graduate Student Panel: Presentation of Digital Projects, Electronic Resources Forum, **Northwestern University**, September 2005

“Engagement in the Guise of Separation: How White Mennonites Engaged African Americans from 1940 to 1969,” Mellon Dissertation Forum, **Alice Berline Kaplan Center for the Humanities**, Northwestern University, May 2005

“Historians (and Other Scholars) Need Religion,” The **Midwestern Region of the American Academy of Religion**, DePaul University, Chicago, Ill., April 2004

“Prayers and Puppet Strings – Religious Ritual and Jewish Reconstructionist Responses to Prayer,” Chicago School of Ethnography: Past, Present, Future, **Northwestern University**, February 2004

**PUBLIC WORKSHOPS  
AND PANELS:**

“The Martin Luther King Who Haunted Me,” **U.S. Forest Service**, Fort Missoula, MT, January 18, 2017

“In the Spirit of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.,” **St. James Episcopal Church**, Dillon, MT, January 15, 2017

“Making Struggle Count: Lessons from the Civil Rights Movement for Today’s Social Justice Movement,” **University of Montana**, November 2, 2017

“Free Speech In the Era of the Alt-Right and Antifa,” **University of Montana**, November 2, 2017

“When Monuments Fall: White Nationalism & Public Spaces,” **University of Montana**, September 13, 2017

“Academia, Research, and Free Speech in the Trump Era,” **University of Montana**, March 15, 2017

“What Would It take for Black Lives to Matter in Missoula,” **Emmaus House**, Missoula, Montana, February 28, 2017

“Ice Cubed: Understanding Racism,” **Mansfield Library Staff and Faculty**, University of Montana, November 29, 2016

“Skill Set: Equipping Ourselves to Resist Sexism,” DiverseU, **University of Montana**, November 3, 2017

“Why Black Lives Matter in Montana,” **Montana Human Rights Network**, Kalispell, MT, October 22, 2016

“An Intimate Demand: Strangeness, Respectability and Intimacy in the Works of Present Tense,” **Montana Museum of Modern Art**, October 21, 2016, panel member

“Race, Religion, and Civil Rights,” Diversity Panel, **College of Education Faculty**, University of Montana, August 25, 2016

“The Great White Way,” Administrative Staff, **College of Health Professions & Biomedical Sciences**, University of Montana, January 21, 2015

“Race and Religion in Contemporary Society,” **Society of Friends**, Missoula, MT, October 11, 2015

“Christianity and Race,” **Emmaus House Student Ministry**, University of Montana, October 4, 2015

“Very White: Race in Montana,” **Flathead Reservation Human Rights Coalition, Inc.**, St. Ignatius, Montana, November 12, 2014

“The Sports Race,” **DiverseU**, University of Montana, November 5, 2014

“Activism and White Identity,” **Student Assault Resource Center** volunteers and staff, Missoula, Montana, April 22, 2014

“Movies and the ‘Magic Negro’: Race in Hollywood Films,” Black Student Union, **University of Montana**, February 19, 2014

“Movies and the ‘Magic Negro’: Race in Hollywood Films,” **Miles City Public Library**, Miles City, MT, January 21, 2014

“Racism Revealed,” **YWCA**, Missoula, MT, November 22, 2013

“White Privilege and Health Care,” **Curry Health Center**, University of Montana, November 19, 2013

“Ice Cubed: Understanding Racism,” **University of Montana Day of**

**Dialogue Workshop**, November 6, 2013

“White Privilege in Advocacy Work,” SARC advocates, **University of Montana**, Tuesday, April 30, 2013

“The Great White Way: Being White in Montana, **University of Montana Day of Dialogue Workshop**, October 25, 2012

“Marginal No More,” **Mennonite Church USA national conference**, Pittsburgh, PA, July 5, 6, 2011

“Wh\*\*\*ger,” **University of Montana Day of Dialogue Workshop**, October 27, 2011

“Damascus Road: Anti-racism Training,” **Lancaster Mennonite Conference**, May 19-21, 2011

“The Magic Negro,” **University of Montana Day of Dialogue Workshop**, October 29, 2010

“Keeping Jacob on the Reservation,” **University of Montana Multicultural Alliance forum**, October 20, 2010

“Struggling for Civil Discourse in an Era of Incivility,” **University of Montana Day of Dialogue Plenary panel**, October 29, 2009

“The Sports Race,” **Day of Dialogue Workshop**, October 29, 2009

“Damascus Road Anti-Racism Process,” **Goshen College**, September 2009

“Damascus Road Anti-Racism Process,” **Associated Mennonite Biblical Seminary**, May 2009

“Hip-Hop History: The Roots of an African-American Movement,” **Black Student Union, University of Montana**, March 18, 2009

“Doing Nonviolence: Leap, Twist, Spy Listen,” Public Lecture, **Missoula Society of Friends**, February 2009

TEACHING  
EXPERIENCE:

**2013-present, Associate Professor, University of Montana**  
**2008-2013, Assistant Professor, University of Montana**  
HC 120 Introduction to Honors: Imagining the Future  
AAS/HSTA 141H Introduction to African-American Studies  
AAS/HSTA 343H African-American History Since 1865

AAS/HSTA 347 Voodoo, Muslim, Church: Black Religion  
AAS/HSTA 415 The Black Radical Tradition  
AAS/HSTA 417 Prayer and Civil Rights  
AAS/HSTA 562 Problems in African-American Religious History  
AAS/HSTA 595 U.S. Religious History

2006, Instructor, **Northwestern University**, “Racing Through the Movies: Race in Twentieth-Century Film,” Freshman writing seminar.

2005, Teaching Assistant, **Northwestern University**, Introduction to the New Testament.

2005, Teaching Assistant, **Northwestern University**, Introduction to Christianity.

2004, Teaching Assistant, **Northwestern University**, Religion in the Human Experience.

2004, Teaching Assistant, **Northwestern University**, Religion in the Human Experience.

2004, Teaching Assistant, **Northwestern University**, Introduction to the New Testament.

1993-2001, **Mennonite Central Committee U.S. Racism Awareness Program Director, Akron, Pa.** Co-founded and led Damascus Road, a national anti-racism training program active among forty-five colleges, mission agencies, congregations, and church-wide conference bodies. Led more than 400 presentations in twenty-five states including sixty-three workshops of a day or more in length and hundreds of lectures, half-day workshops and classroom presentations.

TEACHING

PRESENTATIONS:

“Beyond the Trigger Warning,” Pedagogy Project Microtalk, **University of Montana**, September 13, 2017

“Cultivating Surprise: How to Draw the Best Work from Your Students,” New TA orientation, **University of Montana**, August 25, 2016

“Improving Your Syllabi,” **University of Montana Faculty Development Office**, August 28, 2017; August 25, 2016; August 27, 2015; August 21, 2014

“Inked Up: Strategies For Getting Published,” **University of Montana History Department Graduate Student workshop**, March 20, 2013

“Portfolio, Portfolio, where for art thou Portfolio?”: How to fall in love with developing a teaching portfolio for use on the job market,” **University of Montana History Department Graduate Student workshop**, October 6, 2011; February 27, 2013

“Job Talk: Getting past the jitters, wowing the crowd, and other strategies to prepare for conference interviews and on-campus visits,” **University of Montana History Department Graduate Student workshop**, with Kyle Volk, November 17, 2011; solo, April 17, 2013

“Course Assessment,” **University of Montana History Department Graduate Student workshop**, May 5, 2011

“Teaching Methodology,” **University of Montana History Department Graduate Student workshop**, April 14, 2011

“Course Design,” **University of Montana History Department Graduate Student workshop**, March 3, 2011

“Teaching Naked vs. Digitally Adorned,” **University of Montana Pedagogy Project microtalk**, with Kathy Kuipers, October 1, 2010

“Teaching Writing through Effective Assignments & Feedback,” **Searle Center For Teaching Excellence**, Northwestern University, November 2007

“Chaotic Encounters: Using Chaos to Deepen Student Learning in the Religion Classroom,” **American Academy of Religion**, San Diego, California, November 2007

“Learning-Centered Use of Web-based Technology,” guest lecture, Teaching With Technology, **Northwestern University**, June 2007

“Religious Instruction: Graduate Students Reflect on the Pitfalls and Pleasures of Teaching Religion in a Secular University,” **Midwest American Academy of Religion**, Dominican University, River Forest, Illinois (presider and panelist), March 2007

ACADEMIC  
SERVICE  
UNIVERSITY OF  
MONTANA:

2008-present, Coordinator and Founder, **Pedagogy Project**, a faculty-run and initiated institute to provide feedback and conversation on teaching

2017-present, **Library Committee**, member

2010-present, Executive Committee, **Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Program**

2015-present, **UM Press**, editorial board

2015-2016, **Phi Kappa Phi**, oldest all-discipline honor society, UM chapter, president; past-president 2016-17

2014, College of Humanities and Sciences, **Dean's Ad-Hoc Committee on the Budget**, member

2014, **Woman Suffrage in Montana Centennial Committee**, Women and Gender Studies Program, member

2014-15, **Gen Ed committee**, member

2013-14, **Faculty Senate appointed committee on cross-listing courses**, chair

2012-15, **Faculty Professional Enhancement Program committee**, member

2012-15, **Women and Gender Studies executive committee**, member

2011, **Faculty and Staff Giving Campaign committee**, member

2011, **ECOS-appointed faculty sub-committee on cross-listing of courses**, member

2010-2013, member, **Global Leadership Initiative**, chair Fall 2012

2010, moderated three panel sessions at the **National Conference on Undergraduate Research**

2010, spring, **Writing Committee**, member

2009, **Susan Koch Library Research Scholarship Committee**, member

2008-2009, Curriculum Committee, **Group VI: Historical and Cultural Subcommittee**, member

2009-15, **Conference for Undergraduate Research**, judge

PUBLIC SERVICE: 2013-2017, **Humanities Montana**, board of directors  
2017-18, **Humanities Montana** chair  
2016, **Humanities Montana** vice-chair  
2016-present, **Black Religious History steering committee**, American  
Academy of Religion

MEMBERSHIPS IN  
PROFESSIONAL  
ASSOCIATIONS:

American Academy of Religion

American Historical Association