

Omékongo L. Dibinga, Ph.D.

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RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS

Race, multicultural education, cultural studies, international education, youth & social change, the arts & social change.

EDUCATION

2015 University of Maryland, College Park, MD

Ph.D. in International Education Policy, Department of Higher and International Education Policy

Dissertation: *The Life & Rhymes of Jay-Z: an historical biography (1969-2004)*

Dissertation committee: Barbara Finkelstein (Chair), Carol Anne Spreen, Derrick Alridge, Hoda Mahmoudi

2003 Fletcher School of Law & Diplomacy, Tufts University, Medford, MA

M.A. in Law & Diplomacy

Concentrations: International Development; International Negotiation & Conflict Resolution

M.A. thesis: *The Treatment of Congolese Internally Displaced Persons by the Congolese Government*

1999 Edmund A. Walsh School of Foreign Service, Georgetown University, Washington, DC

B.S. in Foreign Service

Certificate in African Studies

B.S. thesis: *Religious & Linguistic Commonalties between Ancient Egyptians & Contemporary traditional Africans*

1995 Boston Latin School, Boston, MA

UNIVERSITY TEACHING EXPERIENCE

2015-present American University, Washington, DC

Professorial Lecturer

Professorial Lecturer for School of International Service (SIS) and School of Professional & Extended Studies (SPEXS). Courses taught: Cross Cultural Communication (SISU 140), Intercultural Understanding (SISU 130), and Mentored Field Practicum (WSEM 120)

2013-2014 University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA

Lecturer of Multicultural Education

Lecturer for graduate and undergraduate course entitled Multicultural Education (EDLF 5000). Gathered materials for course instruction. Coordinated lectures for visiting professors and other guests.

2014 University of Maryland, College Park, MD

Lecturer in the Department of Education

Lecturer for graduate and undergraduate course entitled *College & Career Advancement: Concepts and Skills* (EDCP 108E). Created new curriculum for summer instruction.

- 2011-2014 Georgetown University, Washington, DC**
Teaching Assistant in the Department of Sociology
 SOCI-124-01 Sociology of Hip Hop: Jay Z
 SOCI-148-01 Barack Obama and Race
 Assisted with instruction of course entitled *Sociology of Hip-Hop: Jay-Z* taught by Dr. Michael Eric Dyson. Conducted class in Dr. Dyson's absence. Met with students regarding class assignments and exams. Gathered materials for course instruction.
- 2006-2007 University of Maryland, College Park, MD**
Teaching Assistant in the Graduate Department of Education
 EDPL 788B Issues & Institutions in International Education Policy
 Assisted with instruction of course entitled *Issues & Institutions in International Education Policy*. Met with students regarding class assignments and exams. Gathered materials and organized website for course instruction.
- 2005-2006 University of Maryland, College Park, MD**
Teaching Assistant in the Department of Behavioral & Social Sciences
 UNIV 188A Culture & Cultural Differences
 UNIV288C Researching Society & Culture
 Conduct class in professor's absence and guest lecture. Advised first year Global Communities students. Graded course assignments and entered them into course management website.
- 2001-2002 Tufts University, Medford, MA**
Teaching Assistant in the Department of Political Science
 PS 129 African Politics
 Project manager for Tufts workshop on BlackBoard website development in Tanzania. Catalogued materials and digitized images for BlackBoard's *Course Info* website. Briefed professor on current issues in African affairs; assisted East African visitors to Tufts' campus.

PUBLICATIONS

- Dibinga, O. (2012, Summer). "Can Art Save the Congo?" Global Post
- Dibinga, O. (2011, Fall). *The UPstander's Guide to an Outstanding Life: changing your life so you can change the world*. Washington, DC. Free Your Mind Publishing.
- Dibinga, O. (2011, Spring). "Elevating the Black Male: Strategies for becoming a more culturally competent teacher" Mindsteps Publishing.
- Dibinga, O. (2010, Spring.) *G.R.O.W. Towards Your Greatness! 10 steps to living your best life*. Washington, DC. Free Your Mind Publishing.
- Dibinga, O., ed. (2007, Spring). *Poems From the Future: poetic reflections from the next generation*. Washington, DC. Free Your Mind Publishing
- Dibinga, O. (2005, Spring). *From the Limbs of my Poetree*. Washington, DC. Free Your Mind Publishing.

MANUSCRIPTS IN PROGRESS

- 2016 Dibinga, O. *The Life & Rhymes of Jay-Z, an historical biography (1969-2004)***
2015 Dibinga, O. *Meeting the Marginalized on the Margins: strategies to create culturally competent environments*

RESEARCH PROJECTS

- 2013** **Georgetown University**
 “America and race in the age of Obama.” Research concentrates on the intersections of race, politics, and culture in a time that some have deemed to be post-racial.
 P.I.: Dr. Michael Eric Dyson
- 2010-11** **Southern Poverty Law Center, Teaching Diverse Students Initiative**
 “Diversity and equity issues in education.” Research concentrates on equipping educators with strategies to develop culturally competent schools
 P.I.: Dr. Willis Hawley
- 2007** **University of Witwatersrand, South Africa**
 “The Arts and Social Change in Southern Africa.” Research centered on the role of the arts and education in post-apartheid South Africa. Citywide school visits conducted to more deeply assess issues of education and arts within South Africa.
 P.I.: Dr. Salim Vally
- 2002** **Jesuit Refugee Services, Democratic Republic of the Congo**
 “Government responses to internally displaced populations.” Research aimed at developing strategies for 5,000 internally displaced persons living in Kinshasa to create income-generating microfinance activities.
- 1999-2000** **Georgetown University African Studies Fellow, South Africa & Zimbabwe**
“The role of South Africa and Zimbabwe in the war in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC).” Travelled to South Africa and Zimbabwe to work with academic and government officials to understand the root causes of their role in preventing war and brokering peace in the ongoing war in the DRC.
 P.I.: Dr. Gwendolyn Mikell
- 1999** **Center for Strategic & International Studies, Washington, DC**
“Regional security on the African continent.” Researched and presented on regional security issues affecting the African continent. Compiled current data relating to Africa from major news outlets.

INVITED LECTURES, PRESENTATIONS, AND PANELS

International

- 2013** “Le pouvoir de votre histoire” (“The power of your story.”) The University of Bamako Department of Political Science. June 12 in Bamako, Mali.
- 2011** “African Empowerment.” African Leadership Network Conference, Ethiopia.
- 2010** “How Much do you Know About Congo.” York University. March 11th in Toronto, Canada.
- 2009** “*Hope for Congo.*” York University. April 15th in Toronto, Canada.
- 2004** “*Africa Rising.*” University of KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa. October 16th in Durban, South Africa.
- 2002** “*Pan Africanism.*” University of Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.

Domestic

- 2016** “*Elevating the Black Male: Developing Culturally Competent Schools*” National Association of Independent Schools Annual Conference. San Francisco, CA.
- 2016** “*Dr. King’s Legacy.*” Pomfret School. Pomfret, CT.
- 2015** “*Raise Hope for Congo.*” United Nations. New York, NY.
- 2014** “*Growing Leaders of Tomorrow: Mindsets, Diversity, and the Dream.*” University of Virginia
- 2014** “*The Accidental Ambassador.*” TEDx Georgetown University. Washington, DC.
- 2014** “*Be an UPstander not a Bystander.*” National Association of Student Councils. Orlando, FL.
- 2013** “*Eradicating Global Slavery.*” Three-day workshops conducted at Hofstra University, City College of New York, Cooper Union College, and Adelphi University. New York. October 8-10.
- 2013** “*Creating Culturally Competent Schools.*” People of Color Conference—National Association of Independent Schools. December 9th in Washington, DC.
- 2013** “*Preventing Bystander Behavior.*” (Dept) Arkansas State University. November 12th in Jonesboro, AR.
- 2013** “*Creating a Conflict Free Campus,*” (Dept, date) University of Wisconsin. October 7th in Madison, WI.
- 2013** “*Hip-hop and Social Change.*” Dept. of Sociology, Georgetown University. November 6th in Washington, DC.
- 2013** “*Walk to end Genocide*” Jewish World Watch. April 8th in Los Angeles, CA.
- 2013** “*The Life of an African Writer*” Library of Congress. July 24th in Washington, DC.
- 2013** “*Global Activism.*” Macalester College. April 25th in Saint Paul, MN.
- 2013** “*Africa Unveiled.*” Department of African Studies, Georgetown University. April 11th in Washington, DC.
- 2012** “*Be an UPstander, not a Bystander.*” University of Pennsylvania. February 22nd in Altoona, PA.
- 2012** “*African American Cultural Patterns.*” Diversity Conference, Baltimore County Public Schools. December 12 in Baltimore, MD.
- 2012** “*Take Back the Night.*” University of Maryland. April 25th in College Park, MD.
- 2012** “*Youth & Social Change.*” University of Ohio. April 27th in Athens, OH.
- 2012** “*Global Hip-hop & Social Change.*” Curry School of Education. University of Virginia
- 2012** “*Student Power to Affect Global Change.*” Goucher College. October 9th in Baltimore, MD.
- 2012** “*Be Astronomical.*” NASA.
- 2011** “*From your Campus to the Congo.*” Department of International Relations at Stanford University, April 4th in Stanford, CA.
- 2011** “*Voices Against Violence.*” University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill. March 31st in Chapel Hill, NC.
- 2011** “*Pledge to Protect.*” National STAND Now conference
- 2011** “*The Power of Service.*” National IMPACT Conference, Stetson University.
- 2011** “*The Power of the Student.*” North Shore Community College.
- 2011** “*Students CAN end Genocide.*” University of Northern Iowa. October 20th in Cedar Falls, IA.
- 2011** “*Alternatives to Media in the Misinformation Age.*” National Youth Leadership Council in Vienna, VA.
- 2011** “*Take Back the Night.*” Advocacy Center at Syracuse University. April 12th in Syracuse, NY.
- 2011** “*Stand Now!*” University of Tennessee
- 2011** “*Teaching Black Boys.*” National Council on Educating Black Children, national conference
- 2010** “*G.R.O.W. Toward Your Greatness!*” OrigiNation Cultural Arts Center.
- 2010** “*Standing Against Injustice.*” University of Pittsburgh. March 23rd in Pittsburgh, PA.
- 2010** “*Get Connected.*” TEDx, NASA. November 23rd in Newport News, VA
- 2010** “*Global Change*” Miami University.
- 2010** “*Preventing Global Atrocities.*” University of New Hampshire. December 1st in Durham, NH.
- 2010** “*Your Role in Genocide.*” University of Delaware. April 27th in Newark, DE.
- 2010** “*The Power of Empowerment.*” University of Richmond. February 28th in Richmond, VA.

- 2010** “*GROW Towards Your Greatness!*” Miami Dade College. February 1, 2010 in Miami, FL.
2010 “*Standing Against Genocide.*” Wilmington College. April 8th in Wilmington, OH.
2010 “*The Roots of Genocide in the Congo.*” Syracuse University. April 14th in Syracuse, NY.
2009 “*Teaching Africa.*” African Studies Association national conference in Washington, DC
2009 “*Elevating the Black Male.*” *National Association for Multicultural Education, national conference.*
2008 “*Connect for Congo.*” United States Holocaust Museum. March 31st in Washington, DC.
2008 “*Dr. King’s Dream.*” Department of Africana Studies at The University of Massachusetts. February 25 in Boston, MA.
2007 “*Voices of Youth.*” Comparative & International Education Society.
2005 “*Black Empowerment*” University of California in Los Angeles, CA.
2002 “*African Empowerment.*” Harvard University in Cambridge, MA.

PUBLIC SCHOOL (K-12) TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- 2012-2013** **Washington International School**, Washington, DC. UPstander Leadership Training.
2008-2011 **Montgomery County Public Schools**, MD. Diversity Consultant.
2007-2008 **Watkins Mill High School**, MD. Staff Development Teacher.
1999-2003 **Boston Renaissance Charter School**, MA. English, Social Studies, & Life Skills Teacher.

OTHER RELEVANT TRAINING

- 1998** **Public Policy and International Affairs Fellowship**, Princeton University
1996 **Summer Leadership Training Course**, Bonner Retreat

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS/AFFILIATIONS

National Association for Multicultural Education (NAME)
 OrigiNation Cultural Arts Center
 National Speakers Association
 National Association of Black Journalists
 CNN (contributor and award-winning reporter).
 Les Brown Platinum Speakers Network
 Cambridge Poetry Ward

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

- 2012-2013** **National Speakers Association**, Youth Conference Chair
2011-2013 **Mattie J.T. Stepanek Foundation**, Board Member
2007-2011 **OrigiNation Cultural Arts Center**, Board Member

CAMPUS SERVICE INVOLVEMENT

American University

Intergroup Dialogue Mentor
 Intercultural Communication Workshop Facilitator
 Speaker for Cross Cultural Identity Event
 Performer for Student-Sponsored Poetry Event

University of Maryland

Nyumburu Cultural Center

Office of Multi-ethnic Student Education
Art & Learning Center
Southern Poverty Law Center Teaching Diverse Students Initiative

The Fletcher School of Law & Diplomacy

Africa Student Group Chair
Ralph Bunche Society
Jesuit Refugee Services
Commencement Toastmaster

Georgetown University

Student Activities Commissioner
Patrick Healy Fellows
Alpha Phi Omega
Black Student Alliance
NAACP
Community Scholars Resident Assistant
African Students Association

Morehouse College

Bonner Scholar
Emmaus House

LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY

English, French, basic Swahili, basic Wolof