

Phyllis M. West, PhD, MPH, MSW

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ACADEMIC CREDENTIALS

- Ph.D. University of Chicago, The School of Social Service Administration, 2008
Chicago, Illinois
- M.P.H. Tulane University, School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine, 1994
New Orleans, Louisiana
- M.S.W. Tulane University, School of Social Work, 1993
New Orleans, Louisiana
- B.A. Paine College, History, 1988
Augusta, Georgia

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Department of Social Work, Governors State University

Senior Lecturer/BSW Coordinator at Triton College (2013 -present)
University Lecturer/BSW Coordinator at Triton College (2012-2013)

Courses taught (MSW level):

Social Work Practice I
Social Work Practice II
Integrative Seminar (Fall 2015)

Courses taught (BSW level):

Generalist Social Work Practice I
Generalist Social Work Practice II
Introduction to Social Work
Human Behavior in Social Environments I
Human Behavior and Social Environments II
Social Work Research
Social Work in Healthcare

Assistant Professor (2008 – 2012)

Courses taught (MSW level):

Social Work Practice I
Social Work Practice II
Social Work in a Diverse Society
Social Welfare Policy I

Courses taught (BSW level):

Generalist Social Work Practice I
Generalist Social Work Practice II

Guest Lecturer

BSW Advanced Social Work: Social Work Response to Trauma Spring, 2014, 2015
Subject: Self-Care Strategies for Preventing Burnout among Health Care Professionals

University Honors Program Guest Lecturer: The Evolving Self and Community Service – March, 2009

MSW Advanced Social Work: Trauma Informed Social Work Practice Spring 2014, 2015
Subject: Self-Care Strategies for Preventing Burnout among Health Care Professionals

Independent study supervised:
Generalist Practice II

University of Chicago School of Social Service Administration, Chicago, IL

Teaching Assistant (1998 – 2001)
Advanced Clinical Research
Family Systems Approach to Practice

ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCES

August 2008 – Present **Governors State University, Department of Social Work**
1 University Parkway
University Park, IL 60484-0975

Senior Lecturer/BSW Coordinator at Triton College 2013 - present
University Lecturer/BSW Coordinator at Triton College (2012-2013)

Coordinator:

Collaborate, mentor, conduct weekly/monthly meetings with faculty teaching in the BSW Program at Triton College. Oversee administrative needs; provide technical support, and guidance to other faculty, and maintaining ties with local community colleges. Provide direction to social work undergraduates related to program admissions, transfers, monitoring the processing of applications, study plans, internships, and graduation. Attend, facilitate, and co-facilitate new student orientation.

Administrative Team:

Develop plans, prepared for CSWE Accreditation Site Visit; reviewed, edit and made recommendations for the revision of the student handbook, reviewed department, college, syllabi, and university policies. Interview, recruit and assist in the hiring of new faculty members and problem-solve barriers related to the daily functions and infrastructure of the Department of Social Work. Review graduate admission applications for the MSW program. Address student concerns in the classroom and internships.

Advisement:

Academic advisor to 20-25 undergraduate and graduate students

Develop academic study plans, advise, recruit, and implement strategies to increase enrollment, and retain current students by ensuring a supportive, positive, and productive learning environment at GSU. Review and monitor academic, and professional performance in the classroom and field. Ensure appropriate accommodations for students with different learning abilities.

Faculty liaison/advisor to the Student Social Work Organization, Project Salone, and Generating Hope. Coordinator of the International Social Work and Development Panel; and for the All Nations for Haiti Fundraiser.

SERVICE TO GOVERNORS STATE UNIVERSITY

Committees

Jackson State University Department of Social Work Dissertation Committee 2013 – present

Department of Psychology Dissertation Committee Member 2013 - present

Department of Social Work Faculty Search Committee 2011, 2015

Executive Board Member of the UPI – Union GSU Local Chapter 2013 – present

Student Leadership Institute Mentor 2013-2014

Commencement Marshal 2009-present

Civic Engagement Service Learning Committee - Subcommittee chair, 2012-2013

Dean of the College of Health and Human Service Search Committee 2012

University Research Director's Search Committee 2012

University Honors Council 2009-2012

Library Advisory Committee 2008 – 2012

Faculty Member of the Latino Center for Excellence 2008-2010

SERVICE TO COMMUNITY

2012 – Present Chicago Area Health Education Center Speakers Bureau

Chicago AHEC provides professional mentorship to underrepresented students who are enrolled in health career programs across the Chicagoland area. The speakers bureau represents professional from diverse careers from nursing and medicine to public health and psychology to career seekers to inform, motivate, and empower them to pursue attainable health career goals.

2012 – 2014 **Endeleo Institute**

Board of Directors, Executive Search Committee Member, Secretary

A nonprofit board instituted to develop and advise three nonprofit 501C3 organizations: Trinity Higher Education Corporation, Amani Health, and the Community Development Corporation affiliated with Trinity United Church of Christ all designed to improve the lives of impoverished and underserved communities in the areas of higher education, health, and community development.

2009- 2011 HealthConnect One

Board of Directors, Secretary

A nonprofit board of professionals from various professions who dedicate their time, talent and oversight to ensure HealthConnect One's success in providing peer-to-peer support for pregnancy, birth, breastfeeding and early parenting support to mothers. The Board members participate in organizational events, program graduations, fundraisers, and board committees.

PROFESSIONAL SOCIAL WORK/PUBLIC HEALTH EXPERIENCES

- 1999 - 2001 **Hull House**, Transitional Living and Career Institute, Chicago, IL
Life Skills Trainer
Counseled and trained youths (wards of the state of Illinois DCFS) ages 18 to 20 on life skills needed to become responsible adults. Trainings consist of money management, employment, interpersonal relationships, substance abuse, criminal justice system, effective communication, mental and physical health, STD/HIV prevention, cooking and nutrition, consumer awareness, legal skills, and emergency and safety.
- 1997 – 1999 **Cook County Department of Public Health**, Oak Park, IL
Assistant Health Officer
Coordinated, monitored, and evaluated community, agencies, churches, schools, and local government public health initiatives. Analyzed epidemiological data and conducted strategic planning for the reduction of health disparities (i.e. infant mortality reduction, low birth weight, STI/HIV/AIDS, teen pregnancy, data analysis of local, state and national health trends in South Suburban Cook County for 1.2 million citizens. Presented reports, co-facilitated public health planning groups with health department executive directors, and community health coalitions. Advised senior management on public health services provided to South Suburban Cook County. Co-founder of the Chicago Southland Crossroads Coalition, an organization developed to collaboratively address the health concerns in South Suburban Cook County, IL.
- 1996 – 1997 **Cook County Department of Public Health**, Oak Park, IL
Health Education Coordinator
Supervised health educators; coordinated, conducted community assessments, promoted, planned, developed, and evaluated health education initiatives in South Suburban Cook County, IL. Analyzed health statistical data and provided technical assistance to local community-based agencies. Prepared and distributed educational and informational materials on public health issues such as immunization, drug abuse, teen pregnancy, and sexually transmitted diseases. Developed and maintained community partnerships.
- 1994 – 1997 **Community Mental Health Council**, Chicago, IL
Clinical Therapist
Facilitated individual, family and group therapy; Completed psychosocial assessments, treatment plans, interventions and evaluated outcomes. Advocated on behalf of clients with the Department of Children and Family Service, Cook County Juvenile Circuit

Court and the Chicago Public School system. Worked with clients on issues of reunification, abandonment, behavioral disorders, substance abuse, sexual abuse, and violence.

1991 – 1992 **Peace Corps Illinois/Indiana Regional Office, Chicago, IL**
Recruiter

Promoted Peace Corps, recruited, screened, interviewed, and processed candidates going overseas from the states of Illinois and Indiana. Planned recruitment campaigns and contributed to the strategic planning for the region. Conducted outreach to various communities, professional and academic institutions. Represented Peace Corps at numerous public speaking engagements and audio-visual presentations. Educated students, organizations, and community groups about Peace Corps opportunities. Provided guidance and support to applicants in the process of qualifying for a volunteer position.

1990 – 1991 **Peace Corps Liberia and Sierra Leone, West Africa**
Logistic Health Coordinator

Coordinated immunization services with a local nurse and vaccinator. Conducted health education sessions, village needs assessments, monitored birth and death rates, constructed latrines, and managed vaccination inventory. Carried out administrative duties of the clinic and directed mass vaccination campaigns related to prenatal care and childhood immunizations in 11 villages.

ACADEMIC INTERNSHIPS

Summer, 2000 **Navajo Division of Health, Indian Health Services, Window Rock, AZ**
Public Health Intern

Constructed a Navajo traditional culture diabetes education curriculum for the Special Diabetes Project. Assisted in the development of guidelines and strategies for the Division of Health.

1992 – 1994 **Children's Memorial Hospital Pediatric AIDS Project (PAP), New Orleans, LA**
Clinical Social Worker/Case Manager Internship

Provided comprehensive services to women and children who were infected and affected with HIV and substance abuse addictions. Educated and counseled clients; provided crisis intervention and coordinated health care services. Functioned as a member of a multidisciplinary team consisting of physicians, nurses, social workers, and mental health specialist.

RESEARCH ASSISTANTSHIPS AND TRAININGS

2002 – 2003 **Cook County Jail: Department of Women's Justice Services, Chicago, IL**
Mental Health Research Intern

Facilitated and co-facilitated substance abuse recovery groups, counseled women in Cook County Jail Women of Power Alumni organization. Developed, recruited, and facilitated groups to help women and family members who are affected by substance abuse and the criminal justice system.

- 2001 – 2002 **University of Chicago**, School of Social Service Administration, Chicago, IL
Research Assistant
Recruited and interviewed research subjects for the Child Care Project. Revised the interviewing guide for language appropriateness and reviewed transcripts for the proper interpretation of the subjects' responses.
- 1999 – 2001 **University of Chicago**, School of Social Service Administration, Chicago, IL
Research Assistant
Under the supervision of Professor Sarah Gehlert, managed data for the National Institute of Mental Health funded research project: Premenstrual Dysphonic Disorder.
- Summer 2000 **Northwestern University**, Ethnographic Field School, Window Rock, AZ
Research Training
Designed research study and interview guide on the Self Perception and Meaning of being a Navajo Woman. Recruited participants, conducted interviews, and analyzed data through the application of ethnographic field methods.

PRESENTATIONS

- West, P. M. (2015, January) Redefining Social Justice, The 2015 Inclusive Leadership Conference, GSU, University Park, IL.
- West, P. M. (2014, September) In the Middle: Redefining and Flourishing in Life (the Perimenapausal Years), ABWHE National Conference, Chicago, IL.
- West, P. M. (2014 December) Lessons from Ferguson, Missouri: Town Hall Meeting, First Baptist Church, University Park, IL.
- West, P. M. (2014, February) Hair Health and Heritage in the 21st Century: A discussion on black hair and body aesthetics and how they impact women's sense of self, GSU, University Park, IL.
- West, P. M. (2013, August) Integrating Civic Engagement, and Service Learning in the Classroom, New Faculty Orientation, University Park, IL.
- West, P. M. (2011, February) An Overview of the Relationship between Mothers under Correctional Supervision and Caregiving Grandmothers, African American Scholars, GSU, University Park, IL.
- Bell, P. W. (2009, November) Going through the Storm: How Grandmother Inherited Caregiving Responsibilities. Council on Social Work Education, San Antonio, Tx.
- Bell, P.W. (2008, February) Where it Begins: Substance Abuse in the Relationship between Incarcerated Mother and Maternal Grandmothers. DePaul University, Department of Social Work, Chicago, IL.
- Bell, P.W. (2007, May) The Relational Patterns between Mothers in the Criminal Justice System and Maternal Grandmothers as Primary Caregivers of their Children. National Black Social Workers- Chicago Chapter Annual Institute, Chicago, IL.

Bell, P.W. (2006, October) Adolescent Years of Adult Daughters under Correctional Supervision and their Relationships with their Mothers. Loyola University: School of Social Work, Chicago, IL.

Bell, P.W. (2005, May) Preliminary Findings on the Relational Patterns between Mothers under Correctional Supervision and Maternal Grandmothers as Primary Caregivers of their Children. University of Chicago: The Center for Race, Culture and Politics, Workshop on The Reproduction of Race and Racial Ideologies, Chicago, IL.

West, P.M. (October, 2004) The Incarceration of African American Mothers and their Families. Board of Commissioners of Cook County, County Commissioner Bobby Steele: 4th Annual Leadership Conference. Chicago, IL.

AWARDS, ACADEMIC HONORS

Governors State University – Black Women Rock Advocate Award, 2015

Governors State University – Social Work Student Organization Advisor Excellence Award, 2014

Governors State University – Best Program of the Year, Presidential Inauguration, Washington, DC, 2013

University of Chicago: The Center for Health Administration Studies Dissertation Fellow, 2005-2006

University of Chicago: The Center for the Study of Race, Politics, and Culture Dissertation Fellow, 2004- 2005

Council on Social Work Education: National Institute of Mental Health Doctoral Fellow, 2001- 2004

Illinois Consortium for Educational Opportunity Doctoral Fellow, 2001- 2005

Wellesley College-The Stone Center: Irene Stiver Relational Cultural Theory Training Grant, 2002

University of Chicago Full-Tuition Stipend Scholarship, 1999-2001