

Renique T. Kersh, Ph.D.

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Education

Oakland University Rochester, MI
Bachelor of Arts Communications
May, 1999

University of Maryland College Park, MD
Master of Education College Student Personnel
May, 2001

University of Illinois Champaign, IL
Doctor of Philosophy Community Health
Research: The relationship between work-stress and health-risk for women in administrative roles in higher education.
August, 2014

Honors and Awards

- Most Valuable Professor, NIU Women's Soccer, Fall 2018

Work Experience

Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, IL *July 2015-Present*
Associate Vice Provost for Student Engagement and Success
Assistant Professor, Department of Counseling, Adult and Higher Education Academic Affairs

North Central College, Naperville, IL *September 2013-June 2015*
Assistant Director of Leadership Programs and Instructor Leadership, Ethics and Values

University of Missouri-Kansas City, Kansas City, MO *August 2012-August 2013*
Assistant Dean for Student Services and Enrollment Management School of Education
Consultant (August 2013-September 2013)
Adjunct Instructor, Educational Leadership, Policy and Foundations (January 2014 and May 2014)

University of Illinois, Champaign, IL *August 2008-August 2012*
Assistant Dean of Academic Affairs College of Applied Health Sciences

North Central College, Naperville, IL *November 2005-July 2008*
Director, Retention and Student Success (Nov. 2005-June 2007) Office of Student Success
Assistant Dean for Student Success (June 2007-July 2008)

North Central College, Naperville, IL *March 2007-July 2007*
Interim Director of Multicultural Affairs Office of Multicultural Affairs

University of Maryland, College Park, MD *March 2004-April 2005*
Program Coordinator/Academic Advisor Philip Merrill College of Journalism

Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD *January 2003-February 2004*
Assistant Coordinator Center for Academic Programs

Research Related Work Experience

- **Research Assistant, Women's Health Collective Lab**, under the guidance of Dr. Angela Rose Black at the University of Illinois, 2011-2012
- **Research Assistant, Dr. Robin Jarrett's Lab**, looking at coping strategies of low-income African American mothers of young children, 2011-2012

Teaching Experience

- **CAHE 503: US College Student**, Northern Illinois University, Fall 2018
- **MLD 525: Models and Theories of Leadership**, North Central College, Winter Term 2018
This graduate level course provides a broad overview of models and theories of leadership and utilizing a case study approach to analyze current and past leaders and leadership situations.
- **UNIV 101: The University Experience**, Northern Illinois University, Fall 2016, Fall 2018
This course provides incoming freshmen with an introduction to the university environment.
- **MLD 624: College Student Development**, North Central College, Winter Term 2015, Winter Term 2017
This graduate level courses analyzes and critiques current and formative student development theories including seminal theoretical constructs like Baxter-Magolda's theory of self-authorship, Chickering's Seven Vectors, Schlossberg's theory of Mattering and Marginality, etc.
- **LEV 250: Preceptor Course**, North Central College, Winter Term 2014-Spring Term 2015
This course focused on pedagogical practices and training for undergraduate teaching assistants.
- **LEV 121: Issues in Leadership**, North Central College, Winter Term 2014-Spring Term 2015
This undergraduate level course provides a broad overview of models and theories of leadership and engages students in discussions about current and previous leaders and opportunities to apply theoretical concepts.
- **CHLH 243: Drug Use and Abuse**, University of Illinois, Summer 2013-present
- *This introductory course surveys a broad range of issues caused by the use and abuse of psychoactive drugs in modern society, as well as provides the political and historical perspectives of drug use and abuse in contemporary American society.*
- **CCS 098: Developmental Reading**, Parkland College, Fall 2011 and Fall 2012
This course provided community college students with developmental reading strategies including understanding context clues, chunking text, highlighting and linking information.
- **AHS 399 (KIN/RST/CHLH 390): Independent Study**, James Scholar Independent Study Course, 2008-2012
This course provided students with applied and practical experiences in the areas of student engagement, leadership and development.
- **PSY 120: The Psychology of Personal Adjustment**, Psychology Course, June 2007 and June 2008
This introductory course provided students with general background on psychological concepts related to stress and coping strategies, motivation, learning styles and other concepts relevant for student success.
- **NCC 095: Applied Principles of Learning and Memory**; Study Skills Course, Fall 2006-Spring 2008
This course focused on learning and cognition and was provided for students who were placed on academic probation.
- **NCC 100: Explorations**; a course for undecided majors, Spring 2007 and Spring 2008
This career preparation course provided students with exposure to career pathways, career assessments and opportunities to think critically about how to develop an academic plan that will align with their career goals.
- **UNIV 100**; a freshman orientation course, Fall 2004
This course provides incoming freshmen with an introduction to the university environment.
- **Co-Instructed, Psychology 292**, Fall 2004

This course covered critical concerns and issues such as alcohol and other drugs, suicide, leadership development/personality types, college transition, mediation and supervision and the student behavior model.

Courses Developed/Redesigned

- **INTL 201/301: Global Internship and Leadership Development**, Northern Illinois University, Summer 2017 to present (**designed course and program in Bucerias and San Pancho, Mexico**)
This combination of courses provides students with the preparation needed for their global internships working with Human Connections and Entreamigos in Bucerias and San Pancho, Mexico. Students engage in discussions on assumptions, stereotypes and bias, community responsibility, voluntourism and social responsibility and social entrepreneurship.
- **MLD Special Topics Course: Retention**, North Central College, Summer Term 2014 (**designed this course**)
This applied course provides students with an opportunity to learn about theories by Astin, Tinto, Braxton, etc. related to retention and student success. Students develop retention plans and learn to assess, analyze and critique university retention plans.
- **MLD 697: Graduate Capstone**, North Central College, Winter Term 2014-Spring Term 2015 (**redesigned graduate capstone**)
This course provided students with an opportunity to synthesize graduate level coursework into a final capstone project.
- **Sankofa Verandah Course: Student Leaders and the Civil Rights Movement**, North Central College, Spring 2015 (**designed in partnership with the Department of History and the Office of Multicultural Affairs**)
This applied undergraduate course focused on understanding leadership theory and the history of student leaders who emerged as part of the civil rights movement. The final outcome was that students went on a civil rights tour to Memphis, Birmingham and Selma and engaged in discussions and reflections on the impact of students on the outcomes of the civil rights movement.
- **EDUC-UL 598: Retention Theory and Practice**, University of Missouri-Kansas City, May Session 2014 (**designed this course**, but course was low-enrolled)
This applied course was designed to provide students with an opportunity to learn about theories by Astin, Tinto, Braxton, etc. related to retention and student success. Students develop retention plans and learn to assess, analyze and critique university retention plans.
- **(Developed, but did not teach) AHS 199: Transformational Leadership in Health**, Fall 2012
This course was designed in partnership with the Illinois Leadership Center to engage students in an analysis of leaders who have made an impact in the health and wellness sectors.
- **The Varsity Course**; a course for all first-year and interested transfer athletes, Fall 2005 and 2006 (**designed this course**)
This student success course was designed to support the academic success of student athletes and was designed as a retention strategy.
- **AHS 125: Freshmen Honors Experience**, James Scholar Honors Course, 2008-2012 (**designed this course**)
This course provided an introduction to undergraduate research experiences, working with faculty and engaging in scholarly practice.

Publications

- Kersh, Renique, Flynn, Gena, Edghill Walden, Vernese, Gyant, Laverne and Flores, Oriana (2018). *Themed Learning Communities: A Vehicle for Introducing HIPs*. NASPA SAPAA Knowledge Community Synergy Newsletter.
- Kersh, R. (2018). Women in Higher Education: Exploring Stressful Workplace Factors and Coping Strategies. *NASPA Journal About Women in Higher Education*, 11(1), 56-73.

- Kersh, Renique (2017). *Critical Considerations of Gender and Leadership*. In J. Dugan, M. Torrez, N. Thurman and Amy Barnes and Associates (Eds). *Deconstructing Leadership Theory: Advancing a Critical Perspective*, 135-150. Jossey Bass: San Francisco, CA.
- Jarrett, R. L., Bahar, O. S., & Kersh, R. T. (2016). "When We Do Sit Down Together" *Family Meal Times in Low-Income African American Families With Preschoolers*. *Journal of Family Issues*, 37(11), 1483-1513.
- Kersh, R. (2014). *Leadership and Millininks*. Naperville Area Women in Business Chamber of Commerce Blog. Retrieve at <http://www.napervillechamberblog.org/napervillewib/2014/12/16/leadership-millennials/>.
- Kersh, Renique. (2012, September). *IN HER OWN WORDS: Black Female Administrators: Is Stress Killing Us?* *Women in Higher Education*, 20(9), 8-9.
- Kersh, Renique and Shipley, Denise (2004). *The Paradigm Shift*. *Black Issues in Higher Education*, May 2004.

Grant Experience

- **Principal Investigator, NSF iUSE, Integrated Co-Curricular and Career Preparation (ICCE)**, currently working on second submission due October 2018
- **Principal Investigator, Ronald E. McNair Postbaccalaureate Achievement Program Grant (Trio)**, Spring 2017; Amount: \$226,600 (not funded)
- **Principal Investigator, NSF iUSE, Integrated Co-Curricular, Curricular and Career Preparation (ICCCE)**, Fall 2016; Amount: \$300,000 (not funded)
- **NIU Foundation Grant**, Received 2015; Amount: \$20,000-Funding supported the pilot study for the Undergraduate Research Pathway Program, later renamed the ECC Research Fellows Program
- **Innovation and Technology Grant, received 2014, North Central College**, Integrating Technology in the Classroom
- **Co-Principal Investigator and Co-Director: Missouri College Access Challenge Grant**, Received 2013; Amount: \$84,500-College and Career Preparatory Program
- **University of Illinois Focal Point Grant**, Received 2012; Amount: **\$15,000**-*The Reveal: Making Room for Voices of Mental Health and Wellness for Black Women*

Research Experience

- **Current Research:** *Creating Environments that Matter: Exploring Student Perceptions of the Benefits, Availability and Accessibility of Engagement Opportunities*
- **Current Research:** *Understanding the Role of High Impact Practices in Student Satisfaction and Success*
- **Current Research:** *Exploring Academic and Learning Outcomes for Students Engaged in Themed Learning Communities*
- **Previous Research:** *High Impact Practices: Assessing Student Learning*, **completed in June 2016**

Workshops/Presentations

- Invited Speaker: National Association for Student Personnel Administrators National Conference, March 2018, *Women in Higher Education: Exploring Stressful Workplace Factors and Coping Strategies (paper presentation)*, **Philadelphia, PA**
- Invited Speaker: National Association for Student Personnel Administrators National Conference, March 2018, *Prioritizing the Ph (or Ed) D: Practical Advice for Busy, Working Professionals Considering the Doctorate*, **Philadelphia, PA**.
- Invited Keynote Speaker: EcoLab/NALCO, Dress for Success Women's Leadership Program, June 2015: *Self-Authorship: Leading from Your Own Voice*, **Naperville, IL**.
- Invited Speaker: International Leadership Association/Women's Leadership Affinity Group Asilomar Conference, June, 2015: *Leadership Makes Me Sick*, **Pacific Grove, CA**. (unable to attend)

- Invited Speaker: Randall L. Tobias Leadership Conference, April 2015: *Leadership and the Millennial Generation: Lessons Learned by Using a Digital Story as a Pedagogical Tool for Teaching Leadership*, **Indianapolis, IN**.
- Invited Speaker: ACAA Conference, Governor's State University, February 2015: *What Leaders and Canadian Geese Have in Common*, **University Park, IL**.
- Invited Keynote Speaker: Elmhurst College Student Affairs and Athletics Staff Development, January 2015: *Leading Through Institutional Changing: Remembering our Purpose*, **Elmhurst, IL**.
- Invited Speaker: National Association for Student Personnel Administrators, Region IV-East Conference, November 2014: *Women Leaders in Student Affairs: Exploring Stressful Workplace Factors and Coping Strategies Employed*, **Columbus, Ohio**.
- Invited Speaker: Hawaii International Conference on Education, December 2013: *Understanding the Relationship between Stress and Health Risk for Women Administrators in Higher Education*, **Oahu, Hawaii**.
- Invited Speaker: Women of Color Leadership Conference, University of Missouri-Kansas City, May 23, 2013: *Minding our Business: Black Women Administrators and Stress Management*, **Kansas City, MO**.
- Invited Speaker: National Association for Student Personnel Administrators National Conference, March 2013: *Thriving, NOT Surviving*, **Orlando, FL**.
- Invited Speaker: National Association for Student Personnel Administrators National Conference, March 2013: *Black Female Administrator's Health and Stress Management*, **Orlando, FL**.
- Invited Poster Presentation: Food Studies Conference, October 2012. "When We Do Sit Down Together": *Family Meal Times Among Low-Income African American Mothers and their Preschoolers*, **Champaign, IL**.
- Invited Speaker: National Association for Student Personnel Administrators National Conference, March 2012: *Purpose is Important*, **Phoenix, AZ**.
- Invited Speaker: American Kinesiology Association Conference, January 2012: *Academic Advising in Kinesiology Programs: A Model for Best Practice*, **Dallas, TX**.
- Invited Speaker: Shoulders Project, 2011: *Leaving Your Legacy*, **Champaign, IL**.
- Invited Speaker: *Black Motherhood, July 2011: Presentation for the Black Women's Life and Balance Conference*, **Atlanta, GA**
- *Who are AHS Students?, August 2009: Presentation for the College of Applied Health Sciences Faculty/Staff*, **Champaign, IL**.
- Invited Speaker: *Being an Advocate for Yourself in the Classroom, April 2008; Presentation for the Associated Colleges of Illinois*, **Springfield, IL**.
- Invited Speaker: *Who are they? How do we keep them? October 2007; Presentation for the Illinois Association for Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers*, **Collinsville, IL**.
- Invited Speaker: *CREW: A Model for Success and Retention, July 2007; Presentation for the Noelle Levitz Conference on Recruitment and Retention*, **Orlando, FL**.
- Invited Speaker: *Campus Support Services, May 2007; ACI College Readiness Program Conference*, **Naperville, IL**.
- Invited Speaker: Quick, R., Alatorre, H., Coleman, C., Jones, S., Jimenez, J., Shipley, D., & Marable, M. (Fall 2000; Spring 2001). **Sistah Circle: Supporting Graduate Women of Color**. Presentation for the American College Personnel Association National Conference, *Boston, MA* and Retention 2000, *College Park, MD*.

Dissertation Committees

- Dissertation Committee Member (Luanne Mayorga): *Understanding how experiential learning opportunities through business incubators help undergraduate students transition from college to careers*
- Dissertation Committee Member (Charnell Thomas, defended in Spring 2018): *Embracing Success: The Experiences of First Generation College Students in a Freshmen Learning Community*

University Committees

- Co-Chair, NIU's Conference on Engaged Learning, Teaching, and Scholarship, present
- Co-Chair, NIU's Strategic Enrollment Management Committee, present
- Chair, Leadership Programs Council, past
- Chair, TEDxNorthCentralCollege Planning Committee, past
- Assistant and Associate Deans Committee, past
- Executive Committee, past
- Educational Policy Committee, Ex-Oficio, past
- Former Chair, Edmund J. James Scholar Faculty/Staff Advisory Board, past
- Former Chair, College Awards Committee, past
- Administrative Council, past
- Committee on Race and Ethnicity, past
- Ambassadors for Diversity and Access in Graduate Education, past
- Past Co-Chair University of Illinois Honors Ad Hoc Committee, Provost Appointed, past
- Past Co-Chair University of Illinois Advising Administrators Ad Hoc Committee, past
- C-U Fit Families, past
- Chairs Team, past
- Strategic Enrollment Management Team, past

Journal Review

- Reviewer, Journal on Experiential Education special issue on Social Justice in Experiential Education, present
- Reviewer, Journal on College Student Retention: Research, Theory and Practice

Community Committees/Boards

- DeKalb Leadership Collaborative, present
- Parent Advisory Committee to the Superintendent for District 308, present

Professional Association Committees/Boards

- Program Team (Co-Chair, Advancing Leadership Development & Education Worldwide), International Leadership Association, Asilomar Women and Leadership Conference 2015, past

Professional Involvement/Professional Organizations

- Association for the Study of Higher Education
- Association of American Colleges and Universities
- Illinois Campus Compact
- National Association for Student Personnel Administrators
- Council on Undergraduate Research
- Leadership Illinois
- Consortium of Illinois Learning Communities
- Naperville Chamber of Commerce, Women in Business Group
- Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

Awards and Recognition

- Selected to attend the Early Career Faculty Workshop sponsored by CAHEP of the Association for the Study of Higher Education (ASHE)

Service (community/public)

- Past Chair of the Booker T. Washington STEM Academy Health and Wellness Committee (**received \$2,500 grant from Carle Hospital to develop and health and wellness initiative**) (2012)
- Former Cluster Facilitator for Leadershape (2011)
- Volunteer for Feed My Starving Children (2011)