Michael Johnson, Jr., Candidate for Vice President of Diversity, Outreach, and Inclusion

Statement of Interest

1. I am deeply appreciative of the nomination for the position of Vice President for Diversity, Outreach and Inclusion and welcome the opportunity to serve my fellow PCA colleagues in this capacity for the upcoming term.

2. In addition to having been a member of the PCA for the past decade, I have also served in a variety of leadership positions which have included Area Chair for the Gender and Sexuality Area of the Southwest Texas chapter of the PCA prior to assuming the Interim Vice Presidency of Diversity, Outreach and Inclusion for the past year immediately after its creation. Professionally, I’m a fulltime faculty member with the Critical Culture, Gender and Race Studies Department at Washington State University where I teach Comparative Ethnic Studies, Women and Gender Studies and American Studies which makes me particularly sensitive to, and acutely aware of, the complexity of issues germane to this position. Indeed, over the past seven years at WSU I have chaired a number of institutional boards, committees and workgroups dedicated to securing equal opportunity, fighting institutionalized discrimination, advancing diversification agendas and championing initiatives for inclusivity across an array of underrepresented and socially marginalized identity categories like those of race, class, gender, sexuality and physiological ability/mobility. Thus I believe I have the requisite knowledge, skills, ability and experience to render me a well-qualified candidate for this position.

3. In my interim capacity, I have strenuously endeavored to bring issues of diversity and underrepresentation to the attention of the Officers and Governing Board Members while also actively and enthusiastically reaching out to those demographics of the PCA membership whose voices might have went unsolicited or unheard in the past. My vision for this position closely parallels the strategic plan on which I’ve collaborated with the Officers and Governing board over the summer of 2015. With the support of the membership, I hope to continue the work we started. To that end, I have the following aspirations: (1) conduct a census of the entire membership to identify who our members are; determine from what demographic distributions are we constituted; and implement a plan to reach out to those underrepresented populations to determine what their needs might be and how the PCA can best serve them. (2) Collaborate with other scholarly and professional organizations that represent underrepresented PCA constituencies and invite their representatives to our annual conference. (3) Expand the work of the PCA Diversity Task Force to create named awards for women and minorities, while also actively recruiting and mentoring members from these underrepresented groups. (4) Establish leadership fellowships to nurture and support members from under-represented groups subject to prudent financial investments. During my tenure it’s my sincere hope that these four objectives can be achieved with your unwavering support.
Michael Johnson Jr.
Department of Critical Culture, Gender and Race Studies
Washington State University
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EDUCATION
Ph.D. American Studies, Program in American Studies, Washington State University, 2013
M.S. Library & Information Sciences, School of Information, Florida State University, 2015
M.L.A Social & Political Thought, College of Arts & Sciences, University South Florida, 2008
B.A. General Studies, College of Liberal Arts, University of New Orleans, 2005

PUBLICATIONS

Books


Forthcoming Manuscripts


2016 Johnson Jr., Michael; Barclay, Jenifer. “Socioeconomic and Racial Dimension of ‘Bug-chasing’ as a Gay Identity Making Practice”

Peer Reviewed Journal Articles


**Book Chapters in Edited Collections**


2014  Johnson Jr., Michael. "The 'It Gets Better Project' – A Study In (and of) Whiteness" in LGBT Youth and Media Cultures by Chris Pullen, Palgrave Macmillan


**Reference and Other Publications**


2012  Johnson Jr., Michael. KTNW-FM @ Issue Episode 110 "WA State Bill ESSB 6239"


REFERED PRESENTATIONS

Conference Presentations

2015  “Racial Homophily and Homogeneity as Post-Racial Commodification on Broke Straight Boys.TV” at the Society for Cinema and Media Studies Annual Conference, Montreal, Quebec, Canada

2015  “Virtual Personas and Real World Identities” at the 11th Annual International Globalization, Diversity and Education Conference, Spokane, WA

2015  “Familial Arrhythmias in the Reynolds Family: A Study of Queer Kinship Relations on ‘It’s Always Sunny’” at the National Popular Culture Association / American Culture Association Conference, New Orleans, LA

2014  “Inspiring Activism in Academia: Race and Cultural Commodification in University Athletics” 10th Annual International Globalization, Diversity, and Education Conference, Spokane, WA

2013  "Regulating Pedagogical Spaces and Places In An Era of Violence", 3rd International Conference on Hate Studies and the 2nd Conference on Race and the Criminal Justice System, Gonzaga University School of Law, Spokane, WA

2012  "Weaving Knowledge(s), Creating Spaces: Chicanas, Chingonas del Sexto Sol", National Association of Chicana/Chicano Studies at Washington State University, Pullman, WA
2012  "Reinscribing Stereotypes While Commodifying Difference: A Critical Analysis of Univision's Sábado Gigante" at the Southwest Texas Popular Culture/American Culture Association 33rd Annual Conference, Albuquerque, NM


2010 "Caught behind The Wire: Black Masculinity, Femininity, Interracial Same-Sex Desire and Motherhood on HBO’s The Wire" at Console-ing Passions International Conference on Television, Audio, Video, New Media, and Feminism at The University of Oregon – Eugene

2010 "With Just One Pill A Day: A Critical Analysis of Persuasiveness in HIV Pharmaceutical Advertisements in the 2008-10 Edition(s) of Out Magazine" at the National Popular Culture Association / American Culture Association Conference, St. Louis, MO

2009 "Queer Consumerism and LGBT Social (In)Justice in The Logo Channel’s Commercial Advertisements" National Popular Culture Association / American Culture Association Conference, New Orleans, LA

2009 "What’s Real about Gay ‘Reality TV’? A Textual Analysis of The Logo Channel’s Can’t Get a Date" 28th Annual SW Texas Popular Culture/American Cultural Association Conference, Albuquerque, NM


2008 "Religious (in)Tolerance or Acceptance: The Queer War of Words and the US Episcopalian Church." Seventh Annual Graduate Student Symposium: Religion, Community and Conflict. Department of Religion, Florida State University, Tallahassee, FL

2008 “Changing Bodies/Changing Minds: Transgendering America One Movie at a Time” 6th Annual Cultural Studies Association Conference, New York University, NY

2007 “Navigating Landmines: Negotiating Professional Development for Queer Graduate Scholars” National Association of Graduate and Professional Students, University of Texas – Austin

2007 “Preparation for an Academic Career: Documenting Success” Diverse Student Success Retreat, University of South Florida Graduate School, Tampa, FL
Invited Presentations

2015 Invited Panelist. “Roundtable on LGBTQ People and Social Media” at the National Popular Culture Association / American Culture Association Conference, New Orleans, LA

2015 Invited Chair. “Queer Inequality and Social Justice” for the WSU Graduate Student Interdisciplinary Conference by Phi Alpha Theta and WSU Graduate and Professional Student Association, Washington State University, Pullman, WA

2015 Invited Lecturer. “Graduate School Admissions Preparation and Skills for Academic Success” for United Greek Council, Washington State University, Pullman, WA


2013 Panelist. North-American Inter-fraternity & National PanHellenic Conference Coalition Assessment Project. Center for Fraternity & Sorority Life at Washington State University, Pullman, WA

2013 Invited Lecturer. “Homophobia in Hip Hop Culture” in CES 209 Hip Hop Around the Globe c/o Stephen Bischoff, Ph.D. at Washington State University, Pullman, WA


2008 Panelist. “To Pursue a Ph.D.” Colloquium. Department of Humanities and American Studies, University of South Florida, Tampa, FL

COURSES TAUGHT

Instructor, Critical Culture, Gender & Race Studies, Washington State University, 2013 - Present

*Digital Diversity*  
*Introduction to Comparative Ethnic Studies*  
*Race, Class, Gender & Sexuality*  
*Global Inequality*  
*Cultural Criticism and Theory*  

*Traveling Cultures: Tourism*  
*Black Popular Culture*  
*Introduction to Critical Race Feminism*  
*Theoretical Issues in Gay and Lesbian Studies*

Teaching Assistant, Critical Culture, Gender & Race Studies, Washington State University, 2009-2013

*Introduction to American Studies*  
*Introduction to Comparative Ethnic Studies*  
*Race and Racism in US Popular Culture*  
*Race and the Law in American History*  
*Race, Class, Gender & Sexuality*

*Social Justice and American Culture*  
*Independent Study*  
*Contemporary Masculinities*  
*Queer Identities in Contemporary Culture*  
*Introduction to Lesbian and Gay Studies*
PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

**Departmental Service**
2013 – 2016 Member, *Critical Culture, Gender and Race Studies*, Graduate Studies Committee
2013 – 2016 Member, *Critical Culture, Gender and Race Studies*, Guest Speakers Committee

**University Service**
2015 - 2016 Member, Multicultural Greek Advisory Council
2013 – 2016 Faculty Advisor, *Gamma Iota Omicron*
2013 – 2015 Member, Student Conduct Board
2011 – 2012 Member, *President’s Award for Leadership and Service* Selection Committee
2011 – 2012 Member, *President’s Student Advisory Board*
2010 – 2012 Member, Faculty Senate Graduate Studies Committee
2009 – 2010 Member, Student Conduct Board
2008 – 2010 Senator, Graduate & Professional Student Association
2008 – 2009 Mentor, Ronald E. McNair Achievement Program
2007 – 2008 Member, Faculty Senate Graduate Council, University of South Florida
2007 – 2008 Member, Student Judicial Services, University of South Florida

**Disciplinary Service**
2014 – Editorial Board Member, *Queer Media Studies and Popular Culture*, Intellect Inc.
2014 – Member, American Library Association, LITA
2014 – Member, American Library Association, GLBT Roundtable
2013 – Member, WSU Chapter, Association of American University Professors
2013 – Member, WSU Chicano/Latino Faculty and Staff Association
2011 – Member, Academy of Television & Arts Sciences
2010 – Member, Center for the Study of Film and History
2009 – Member, Society for Cinema and Media Studies, Queer Caucus
2009 – Member, Society for Cinema and Media Studies, Television Studies Special Interest Group
2008 – Member, American Studies Association, Queer Caucus
2008 – Member, American Studies Association, Minority Scholars Committee

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1 Omitted end dates signify continuing membership and/or participation
**Community Service**

- **2015 – 2016** Gubernatorial Appointee, *Washington State Clemency and Pardons Board*

- **2014 – 2015** Member, Organizing Committee, *Spokane LGBTQ Film Festival*

- **2014 – 2015** Member, *Equal Rights Washington*

- **2008 – 2014** Member, Kamiak District Committee, Inland Northwest Council, Boy Scouts of America

- **2007 – 2008** Member, Urban Scholars Outreach Program, University of South Florida

- **2007 – 2008** Member, Hillsborough County Literary Council, Tampa, FL

- **2003 – 2006** Member, Emergency Response Unit, *American Red Cross* (Baton Rouge Area)

- **2000 – 2001** Membership Director, *College Democrats*, University of New Orleans

- **2000 – 2001** Business Director, Avondale Scout Reservation, Istrouma Area Council, BSA

**PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

- **2013** Participant, "Workshop for Graduate Students: Incorporating In-Class Activities" with Carmen Lugo-Lugo, Ph.D. and Lisa Guerrero, Ph.D. Critical Culture, Gender and Race Studies, 9/27/2013

- **2013** Participant, "Academic Job Market Workshop" with Jenifer Barclay, Ph.D., Lisa Guerrero, Ph.D. and Richard King, Ph.D., Critical Culture, Gender and Race Studies, 10/18/2013

- **2014** Participant, Faculty Search (Erin Tunney, Ph.D.) with Mary Bloodsworth-Lugo, Ph.D., Critical Culture, Gender and Race Studies, 1/30/2014

- **2014** Participant, "Demonstrating Technologies that Support Student Engagement" WSU Provost’s Office and Global Campus, 4/15/2014

- **2014** Participant, "Neurobiology of Sexual Assault", Office for Equal Opportunity, Kimberly D. Anderson, Director 5/1/2014

- **2014** Participant, "Investigating Campus Sexual Misconduct Complaints" with Jeremy Inabinet (USDOJ OVW), c/o WSU Office of Student Standards and Accountability, 05/21/2014


- **2014** "Social/Behavioral Research Course" Collaborative Institutional Training Initiative, WSU IRB Training Module (13631607) on 8/2/2014

- **2014** "Conflicts of Interest Course" Collaborative Institutional Training Initiative, WSU IRB Training Module (13631607) on 8/3/2014

- **2014** "Social and Behavioral Responsible Conduct of Research" Collaborative Institutional Training Initiative, WSU IRB Training Module (13631607) on 8/3/2014

- **2015** Participant, "Blackboard Learn: Basics" & "Blackboard Learn: Content" by WSU Global Campus 1/7/2015
2015  Participant, "Blackboard Learn: Grade Center" & "Blackboard Learn: Tests & Quizzes" by WSU Global Campus 1/8/2015

2015  “Financial Conflict of Interest” Collaborative Institutional Training Initiative, WSU IRB Training Module (74845) on 1/22/2015

2015  “National Endowment for the Humanities” Collaborative Institutional Training Initiative, WSU IRB Training Module (71628) on 1/22/2015

**AWARDS AND HONORS**

2014  *H. W. Wilson Foundation Endowed Scholarship*, School of Information, Florida State University

2011  *Burgess Brothers Memorial Scholarship*, College of Liberal Arts, Washington State University

2011  ¡Lánzate! Higher Education Travel Award, Southwest Airlines

2010  Davis Putter Foundation Scholarship (Semi-Finalist)

2010  The Pride Foundation Scholarship (Semi-Finalist)

2010  The Point Foundation Scholarship (Semi-Finalist)

2009  USA Funds *Access to Education* Scholarship

2009  Davis Putter Foundation Scholarship (Semi-Finalist)

2009  The Pride Foundation Scholarship (Semi-Finalist)

2009  The Point Foundation Scholarship (Semi-Finalist)

2008  *Heldrich – Dvorak Travel Award*, Popular Culture/American Culture Association

2008  *Ronald E. McNair Fellowship*, Washington State University

2008  Pan-American Fellowship, University of South Florida

2007  Graduate Travel Award, College of Arts & Sciences, University of South Florida

2007  Diverse Student Success Summer Fellowship, University of South Florida

2007  *A. Harrison & Ruth Kosove Fellowship*, University of South Florida (Semi-Finalist)

2003  *Nouvelle Orleans* Scholarship, University of New Orleans

2003  *Last Dollar Grant*, The College Bound Foundation
REFERENCES

Carmen R. Lugo-Lugo, Ph.D.
Associate Professor, Department of Critical Culture,
Gender and Race Studies
Washington State University
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