

## VITAE

### **BOBBY C. ALEXANDER, Ph.D.**

Associate Professor of Sociology, Sociology Program  
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### **EDUCATION HISTORY**

- Ph.D., May 15, 1985, Columbia University, New York, New York, Religious Studies (area of concentration: social-scientific study of religion)

Dissertation Title: “A Critical Assessment of Victor Turner’s Theory of ‘Ritual Anti-Structure’ as Agent of Social Change as an Interpretive Tool in Application to Pentecostal Spirit Possession and the Contemporary Theatrical Experiments of Jerzy Grotowski’s Polish Laboratory Theatre”

- Ph.D., May 14, 1985, Union Theological Seminary, New York, New York (awarded in cooperation with Columbia University), Systematic Theology
- Master of Philosophy, May 13, 1981, Columbia University, New York, New York, Religious Studies
- Master of Divinity, May 21, 1976, Union Theological Seminary, New York, New York, Systematic Theology
- B.A., May 18, 1973, Baylor University, Waco, Texas, Double Major: Religion, and English Literature; graduated *magna cum laude*

### **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

#### *UTD*

- Associate Professor of Sociology, August 2002-present, Sociology Program, Department of Public Affairs and Policy Studies, School of Economic,

Political, and Policy Sciences, Richardson, Texas

- College Master and Assistant Dean for Undergraduate Studies, August 1999-May 2002, School of Social Sciences, Richardson, Texas
- Senior Lecturer III, August 2001-May 2002, School of Social Sciences (renamed School of Economic, Political, and Policy Sciences), Richardson, Texas
- Senior Lecturer II, August 1999-May 2001, School of Social Sciences, Richardson, Texas
- Senior Lecturer I, August 1997-May 1999, School of Social Sciences, School of Arts and Humanities, and Office of Undergraduate Education, Richardson, Texas
- Lecturer II, January 1995-August 1995, School of Arts and Humanities, Richardson, Texas
- Lecturer I, June 1993-August 1997, School of Social Sciences, Richardson, Texas

*Southern Methodist University*

- Assistant Professor of Religious Studies, August 1986-May 1993, Department of Religious Studies, Dedman College, Southern Methodist University, Dallas, Texas

*Hunter College of the City University of New York*

- Adjunct Assistant Professor of Religious Studies, September 1985-May 1986, Hunter College of The City University of New York, Program in Religion, Department of Philosophy, New York, New York
- Adjunct Lecturer in Religious Studies, September 1981-May 1985, Program in Religion, Department of Philosophy, New York, New York

*Barnard College*

- Teaching Assistant, September 1979-May 1981, Department of Religion, New York, New York

While a Ph.D. candidate in the Department of Religion at Columbia University

I was the Teaching Assistant (TA) for the Department of Religion at Barnard, and was TA for Elaine Pagels, Ph.D., Chair of the Department, my second year in the position.

*Macmillan Publishing Company*

- Editorial Assistant, 1983-1986, *Encyclopedia of Religion*, The Macmillan Publishing Company, New York, New York

## **RESEARCH, TEACHING, AND COMMUNITY SERVICE: OVERVIEW**

I am Associate Professor of Sociology in the Sociology Program, Department of Public Affairs and Policy Studies, School of Economic, Political, and Policy Sciences (EPPS) at The University of Texas at Dallas. I received my Ph.D. from Columbia University in Religious Studies in 1985; I also was awarded a Ph.D. in Systematic Theology by Union Theological Seminary in New York in the same year. I was awarded a Master of Philosophy in Religious Studies by Columbia in 1981, and a Master of Divinity in Systematic Theology by Union Seminary in 1976. I received my Bachelor of Arts in Religion, and in English Literature from Baylor University in 1973. In 1973 I joined the UTD faculty as Adjunct Lecturer in the formerly named School of Social Sciences before being appointed Senior Lecturer in that school and in the School of Arts and Humanities in 1999. Prior to joining the faculty, I was Assistant Professor of Religious Studies in Dedman College at Southern Methodist University. Before that, I was Adjunct Assistant Professor in the Program in Religion in the Department of Philosophy at Hunter College of the City University of New York and, previously, while working on my dissertation, Adjunct Faculty in the same program at Hunter College.

I have published in the fields of social-scientific study of religion, Religious Studies, anthropology of religion, and Ritual Studies. I have authored two book monographs, originally published by the American Academy of Religion and currently in the catalog of Oxford University Press. A recently completed book, of which I am co-editor and a principal author, is in press with The Edwin Mellen Press. The book is based on a U.S. Department of Education FIPSE grant, for which I was Project Director. I am currently working on a book monograph and related single-authored journal articles, and articles co-authored with a member of UTD's Asylum Research Team. I have single-authored journal articles in *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion*, *Method and Theory in the Study of Religion*, *Journal of Ritual Studies*, *Semeia: Journal for Biblical Interpretation*, and *Listening: Journal of Religion and Culture*, and was the lead author of an article in the *Journal for Hispanic Higher Education*. I have published book chapters in edited books by Sage Publications, Inc. and Greenwood Press. I authored articles in two editions of *The Encyclopedia of Religion*, the *Encyclopedia of Protestantism*, and *Encyclopaedia Britannica*. I have served as a reviewer for professional journals in social-scientific study of religion, ritual studies, and anthropology.

My research and publications treat religion and social change. Informed by theories of religion and ritual as agents of social change found in sociology, anthropology, Religious Studies, and Ritual Studies, my research examines social change within the overlap of religion and other social forces. A special focus has been ways in which minority and marginal social groups have engaged their religious institutions, ideologies/theologies, and ritual in social change within the context of broader patterns of social conflict and change. I employ participant-observation ethnography as my primary research method. My research has been funded by the Rockefeller Foundation, the American Academy of Religion (AAR), the AAR's Southwest Commission on Religious Studies, CrossCurrents: The Association for Religion and Intellectual Life, the Overbrook Foundation, and Southern Methodist University. I am a member of the American Academy of Religion and a former member of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion.

I teach courses in religion in society (focusing in part on the role of immigrant religious organizations in assimilation), immigrants and immigration in U.S. society, religion in international development (focusing in part on the contribution of religious institutions to the changing status of women as it relates to economic development), and race and ethnicity, among others. I serve on dissertation committees in the School of Economic, Political, and Policy Sciences. A two-time recipient of the Student Choice Teaching Award presented by students in the School of Social Sciences at UTD, I was a 2011 recipient of an Outstanding EPPS Faculty Comet Award, which is based on student nominations, and a Distinguished Teacher in Diversity and Multicultural Education Award, which is presented by UTD's Office of Diversity and Community Engagement. I was twice nominated by UTD students for the Chancellor's Council Outstanding Teaching Award. I was a three-time nominee for the Margareta Deschner Teacher Award given by the Women's Center at Southern Methodist University.

I have been a member of the Sociology Program Committee in EPPS, and have served on university-wide committees: the Committee on Education Policy (CEP), which I served as Chair; the Committee on Core Curriculum (CCC); Committee on Student Scholarships, which I have served as Vice Chair; and the Advisory Committee of the Office of International Education. As Assistant Dean and College Master in the formerly named School of Social Sciences, I served on the Council of Masters, an administrative body comprised of Assistant and Associate Deans of Undergraduate Studies in their respective schools. I also served on the President's Ad Hoc Committee for Community Outreach, and the Planning Committee of the UTD-U.N. Conference on Women, sponsored by the School of Social Sciences and the Dallas Chapter of the United Nations. I served as Faculty Advisor in UTD's Office of Undergraduate Education under the Dean of Undergraduate Education. Long-time Faculty Advisor to the UTD Baha'i Association, I also have been advisor to the UTD Intercultural Women Students Association and co-advisor to the UTD Sociology Club.

I am a member of the American Academy of Religion (AAR) and am a past member of its Ritual Studies Steering Committee. I am a member of the Board of Directors of the Institute of Sacred Music at Yale University, known as Friends of Yale Institute of Sacred Music (Yale ISM), an advisory body appointed by the Director of the Institute. I am past President of the

Board of Directors of the Oak Cliff Center for Community Studies, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization I founded together with principals of the FIPSE grant, and honorary Lifetime Member of the Board. I am a former member of With One Voice, a Dallas-based coalition of public and government institutions and non-profit organizations providing a variety of services to immigrants in North Texas.

## **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

- American Academy of Religion, 1986-present
- Society for the Scientific Study of Religion, 1986-2000

## **AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS**

- Coolidge Fellow  
CrossCurrents: The Association for Religion and Intellectual Life  
Research Colloquium, with cooperation from Columbia University and Union  
Theological Seminary, New York, New York, July 5-28, 2006

This competitive residency program allowed me to draft a journal article and develop a book monograph on the contribution of Protestant church organization and church doctrine to change in gender role for Mexican immigrant Pentecostal women. The book explores, through such change, broader gender-related issues in the settlement and assimilation of Mexicans and the second generation in the United States.

- Resident  
The Rockefeller Foundation  
Residency, The Rockefeller Foundation Bellagio Study and Conference Center  
Bellagio, Italy, July 15-August 13, 2004

This competitive residency program allowed me to devote one month to the initial stage of conceptualizing my book on Protestant religious organization and doctrine, change in gender role for Mexican immigrant Pentecostal women, and assimilation of Mexican immigrants.

- Junior Scholar Award and Research Grant  
Southwest Commission on Religious Studies (Southwest region of the American  
Academy of Religion), 1989-1990  
Research and book on television religion

## PUBLICATIONS

### Books

#### In Press

- *Barriers Faced by Hispanic Students Transferring from Community Colleges to Universities: An Ethnographic Approach*. Bobby C. Alexander and Victor Garcia, Editors. Lewiston, New York: The Edwin Mellen Press. I am one of two editors and two principal authors of this completed book.

The book presents ethnographic findings on barriers to transfer Hispanic community college students encounter in transferring to the university. Beyond reporting transfer barriers and recommending policy to address them, the ethnographic findings generate a variety of concepts, contexts, and questions for future research. The book is based upon a grant project funded by the U.S. Department of Education's Fund for the Improvement of Post-Secondary Education (FIPSE), titled "An Ethnographic/Social-Scientific/Community-Based Model to Recruit and Retain Hispanics." I was Project Director. The purpose of the FIPSE grant was to address Congressional Priorities 12 and 13 (1998): retain Hispanic students enrolled in two-year colleges, transfer them to four-year colleges and universities upon the completion of the Associate's degree, graduate them with a Bachelor's from four-year institutions, and enroll more Latino students as majors in the sciences. The book is an expanded version of a paper I and my co-authors were selected by The Civil Rights Project at Harvard University to present to its eight-panel symposium on "Community Colleges and Latino Educational Opportunity" held at The Harvard Law School with support from the Pew Hispanic Center.

- 1994. *Televangelism Reconsidered: Ritual in the Search for Human Community*. Studies in Religion Series, No. 68. Atlanta: Scholars Press (in the catalogue of Oxford University Press; originally published by the American Academy of Religion's press).

By framing the phenomenon within the context of viewers' ideological and social marginalization within mainstream U.S. society, the book calls attention to televangelism's attractiveness as an opportunity viewers discover to redress their marginality. Fundamentalist Christian viewers' religious ideology and morality differ from those of mainline Christians and from mainstream society, which is historically committed to political, cultural, and religious pluralism. The book offers an analysis of the conflicting ritual uses of television religion by viewers to overcome their marginality: self-legitimation as a minority religious group, and adaptation of members of this group to a secularized U.S. society undergoing political, social, and cultural change.

- 1991. *Victor Turner Revisited: Ritual as Social Change*. Academy Series:

Dissertation Series, No. 74. Atlanta: Scholars Press (in the catalogue of Oxford University Press; originally published by the American Academy of Religion's press).

The book offers an evaluation of Victor Turner's theory of "ritual anti-structure" – ritual stands in "dialectical relation" to social structure and, as such, is an agent of social change within the context of social conflict and change in the wider society – applied as an interpretive tool to two examples of religious or spiritual ritual, one found in traditional religion and the other in a secular form of spirituality. Application is made to a well-known black Pentecostal church in Brooklyn, New York, engaged in political activism in that city, as well as to the highly influential, counter-cultural experiments of Jerzy Grotowski's contemporary Polish Laboratory Theatre.

## Journal Articles

### Refereed

- 2007. "Barriers in the Transfer Process for Hispanic and Hispanic Immigrant Students." *Journal of Hispanic Higher Education* 6(2) (April):174-184. Co-authored with Victor Garcia, Laura Gonzalez, Geoffrey Grimes, and Dan O'Brien.

I was the lead author of this article based on the paper my co-authors and I were selected to present to The Civil Rights Project at Harvard University's eight-panel symposium on "Community Colleges and Latino Educational Opportunity" sponsored by the Pew Hispanic Center. The journal is a publication of Sage Publications.

- 1998. "A Pentecostal-styled Mexican Mission in Dallas: An Illustration of Religious Diversity among New Latino Immigrants." *Listening: Journal of Religion and Culture* 33(3) (Fall):175-187.
- 1998. "Introduction." *Listening: Journal of Religion and Culture* 33(3) (Fall):155-161.

I was Editor of this special issue devoted to the "Religions of America's Immigrants."

- 1995. "An Afterward on Ritual in Biblical Studies." *Semeia: Journal for Biblical Interpretation* 67 (Fall):209-225.

The editor of this special issue solicited my essay as a response to the

other articles, which addressed the theme, “Passages, Transformations, and Processes: Ritual Approaches to Biblical Texts.” One of the major journals in biblical studies.

- 1991. “Correcting Misinterpretations of Turner’s Theory: An African-American Pentecostal Illustration.” *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion* 30(1) (March):26-44.

The leading journal in social-scientific study of religion.

- 1991. “Turner’s Definition of Ritual Reconsidered: Grotowski’s Experimental Theater as Secular Rituals of Spiritual Healing.” *Method & Theory in the Study of Religion* 3(1), Issue 31 (Winter):62-83.
- 1989. “Pentecostal Ritual Reconsidered: ‘Anti-structural’ Dimensions of Possession.” *Journal of Ritual Studies* 3(1) (Winter):109-128.

The leading journal in Ritual Studies.

#### Non-Refereed

- 1994. Rejoinder to Don Hendelman’s review of my book, *Victor Turner Revisited: Ritual as Social Change*. *Journal of Ritual Studies* 8(2) (Summer):161-163.

The editors of this refereed journal published my rejoinder as a non-refereed response.

#### **Articles Appearing as Chapters in Edited Volumes/Book Chapters**

#### In Press

- “Liminal/Liminality.” *Vocabulary for the Study of Religion*, edited by Kocku von Stuckrad and Robert Segal. E.J. Brill. Leiden, The Netherlands.

The editors invited me to discuss the concept of liminal/liminality as it is applied in the study of religion, which concludes with a critique of Victor Turner’s theory of ritual liminality, including my own criticism.

- 2010. “Public Art in the Ritual Construction of Human Community.” In *Holy Hiatus Art as Ritual and Community*, edited by Ruth Jones. London: Parthian Books.

In this chapter I apply sociological and anthropological theories of

ritual to illumine the role of performance art as ritual in the construction of human community and the experience of the “holy” in contemporary secular western society. The chapter is a revised version of my keynote address to the symposium “Holy Hiatus: Performing Ritual, Community, and Space” funded by The University of West England and held at Cardigan, Wales, United Kingdom, May 24-25, 2008.

- 1997. “Ritual and Current Studies of Ritual: Overview.” *Anthropology of Religion: A Handbook*, edited by Stephen D. Glazier. Westport, Connecticut: Greenwood Press.

I was Editor of the chapters on ritual.

- 1997. “Televangelism Reconsidered: Ritual within a Larger Social Drama.” *Rethinking Media, Religion, and Culture*, edited by Stewart M. Hoover and Knut Lundby. Sage Publications, Inc.: Thousand Oaks, California.

The chapter is based on the paper I was invited to present by organizers of the first of three international symposia on “Media-Religion-Culture” at Uppsala University, Uppsala, Sweden, in 1993. Hoover and Lundby organized the symposium.

### Articles in Encyclopedias

- 2011. “Rite of Passage.” *Encyclopaedia Britannica*. Chicago, Illinois. Published online.

The editors invited me to expand my entry published in 2009 by discussing theories of social roles of religious rites of passage in traditional societies as well as the roles of religious or quasi-religious rites in modern secular societies viewed within the context of competing theories of secularization and religion.

- 2009. “Rite of Passage.” *Encyclopaedia Britannica*. Chicago, Illinois. Published online.

Editors of the encyclopedia invited me to update the entry originally written by Edwin Norbeck and discuss contemporary theories that illumine the phenomenon.

- 2005. “Ceremony.” *Encyclopedia of Religion*, Second Edition, edited by Lindsay

Jones, *et al.* Vol. 3:1512-1519. The Macmillan Publishing Company.

A cross-cultural examination of political applications of religious ritual and of religiously informed secular ritual with political purpose, providing contemporary and classical examples. (an updated and revised entry based on 1987 publication, below)

- 2003. “Jerry Falwell.” *Encyclopedia of Protestantism*, edited by Hans Hillerbrand. Vol. 2:738-739. Routledge Publications, Inc.
- 1987. “Ceremony.” *Encyclopedia of Religion*, edited by Charles Adams, *et al.*; Mircea Eliade, Editor in Chief. Vol. 3:179-183. New York: The Macmillan Publishing Company.

## Works in Progress

### Book Monograph

- *The Contribution of Religion to Mexican Migrant Women’s Assimilation*

This book monograph examines the contribution of Protestant church organization and egalitarian church doctrine to change in gender role for Mexican immigrant Pentecostal women. The book explores, through such change, broader gender-related issues in the assimilation of Mexicans and the second generation in the United States. The book calls attention to religion’s contribution to patterns of change in gender role emerging within the overlapping social arenas of religious institutions (which sociological studies of Mexican and other immigrant women tend to overlook), the family, and paid labor (on which sociologists tend to place their focus as the locus of change). Change in gender role occurring inside the religious organization both influences and is influenced by such change occurring inside the family and in the workforce.

The book focuses on the religious institution, its life cycle rituals, and egalitarian Pentecostal doctrine. More specifically, the book calls attention to the encouragement of women’s agency and authority in decision making by growing leadership roles for women within the congregational structure of the religious organizations they help to establish and lead and within the congregations’ community model of service delivery, by women’s leadership in celebrating life cycle rituals observed by their churches, and by Pentecostal egalitarian religious doctrine. The book examines how these features of their religion provide these women leverage to exercise greater degrees of agency and assert greater authority within their churches, families, and work.

I have received support for this research from the Rockefeller Foundation (2004), CrossCurrents: The Association for Religion and Intellectual Life

(2006), and UTD (Special Faculty Development Assistance, academic year 2006-2007).

### Journal Articles

- “The Contribution of Protestant Church Organization and Doctrine to Change in Gender Role for Mexican Migrant Women and Their Assimilation”

The article is a condensed version of the argument I make in the book monograph (above) now in progress.

- “The Performance of Credibility in the Process of Appeal for Political Asylum.” Co-authored with Doug Dow.

My co-author and I examine the interplay of western juridical concepts at work in judge’s decisions about asylum (credibility, truthfulness, coherence, authenticity, and naturalness), petitioners’ gender and cultural difference, and post-traumatic stress, specifically how this interplay makes an impact on petitioners’ performance of credibility. Drawn principally from current legal theory, the concept of performance of credibility refers to co-construction of credibility by individual asylum petitioners, staff members of non-profit agencies providing petitioners legal representation, pro bono attorneys secured by these agencies, immigration court officers, and immigration judges. The article draws from ethnographic observations of and interviews with clients and staff members of the Human Rights Initiative of North Texas (HRI), a Dallas-based 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, I and my colleague, Danielle Lavin-Loucks conducted. HRI provides legal representation to clients pursuing asylum and other legal statuses.

This is my initial journal article based upon research on “Performance of Credibility in the Construction of Successful Political Asylum Cases” I conducted in collaboration with members of the former UTD Asylum Research Team (ART), an interdisciplinary group comprised of Drs. Lloyd Jeff Dumas, Jennifer Holmes, Linda Keith, and Doug Dow, all of whom are members of the faculty in the School of Economic, Political, and Policy Sciences. Dr. Lavin-Loucks had been a member of the research team. The ART project members aim to make their findings available to policymakers engaged in reform of U.S. immigration laws and policies. I am working on journal articles I am co-authoring with members of the research team, which plans to publish its findings in an edited volume. I and other members of ART have received research funding (through HRI) from The Overbrook Foundation.

- “Ritual Liminality As ‘Holy Play.’”

In this article I develop discussion of the concept the “holy” I explored in my

keynote address to the first symposium “Holy Hiatus” in 2008, examining the convergence of secular and religious definitions. The chapter is based on my lecture to the second symposium “Holy Hiatus: Performing Ritual, Community, and Space” funded by The University of West England and held at Cardigan, Wales, United Kingdom, on September 25, 2010.

## **Other Writings**

### Book Reviews

- 2001. *Rites in the Spirit: A Ritual Approach to Pentecostal/Charismatic Spirituality* by Daniel E. Albrecht, *Journal of Pentecostal Theology Supplement Series 17*, Sheffield, England: Sheffield Academic Press, 1999. In *Pneuma: The Journal of the Society for Pentecostal Studies* 23(2) (Fall):303-306.
- 1992. *By Means of Performance: Intercultural Studies of Theatre and Ritual*. Edited by Richard Schechner and Willa Appel. In *History of Religions: An International Journal for Comparative Historical Studies* 31(3) (February):323-324.
- 1989. *Ecstasy, Ritual, and Alternate Reality: Religion in a Pluralistic World* by Felicitas D. Goodman; and *Religious Worlds: The Comparative Study of Religion* by William E. Paden. In *American Anthropologist* Vol. 91, No. 4 (December):1057-1059.
- 1988. *To Take Place: Toward Theory in Ritual* by Jonathan Z. Smith. In the *Perkins Journal* 41(4) (October):32-34.
- 1987. *Grotowski and His Laboratory* by Zbigniew Osinski. In *Slavic Review: American Quarterly of Soviet and East European Studies* 46(2) (Summer):373-374.

### Reports

- 2005. *Final FIPSE Report* (FIPSE Grant #P116D990399). March 3.

The report is available in the archive of the U.S. Department of Education’s Fund for the Improvement of Post-Secondary Education (FIPSE), Washington, D.C.

## **Conference Proceedings/Symposia Papers**

### Refereed

- 2006. “The Role of Institutional Religion in the Transformation of Migration through Encouragement of Women’s Agency: Mexican Pentecostal Women in the U.S.” Paper presented to the Fellows of CrossCurrents: The Association for Religion and Intellectual Life. New York, New York. July 12.
- 2004. “Religion and Transnational Migration: The Case of La Luz del Mundo.” Co-authored with Patricia Fortuny, Ph.D. Paper presented to the Residents of the Rockefeller Foundation’s Bellagio Study and Conference Center. Bellagio, Italy. August 2.
- 2003. “New Challenges for Community Colleges: Latino Immigrants and the Transfer Process.” Co-authored with Victor Garcia, Laura Gonzalez, Dan O’Brien, and Geoffrey Grimes. Conference Proceedings pp. “Community Colleges and Latino Educational Opportunity.” Organized by The Harvard Civil Rights Project, supported by the Pew Hispanic Center, and held at the Harvard Law School. Cambridge, Massachusetts. October 11.

The paper was one of eight selected by The Civil Rights Project at Harvard for presentation at this roundtable symposium.

- 2001. Poster Session on the UTD FIPSE grant, Annual FIPSE Project Directors Meeting of the U.S. Department of Education. San Diego, California. November 17.
- 2000. “Two Family Histories in the Early Mexican Community in Dallas, 1915-1945.” Co-authored with Dr. Laura Gonzalez. Second Annual “Legacies Dallas History Conference” held at Southern Methodist University. Dallas, Texas. October 21.
- 1993. “Television Religion: Ritual Within a Larger Social Drama,” Conference Proceedings pp. 71-84 “Media, Religion and Culture.” University of Uppsala (Sweden). May 24.

#### Non-Refereed

- 1998. Session on “Migration and Sex Roles: The Dallas-Guanajuato [Mexico] Connection.” UTD-U.N. Conference on Women: “Advancing Women through Global Policy,” sponsored by the School of Social Sciences, UTD and the United Nations, Dallas Chapter, held at The University of Texas at Dallas. Richardson, Texas. October 25.
- 1997. Session on the “Environment, Development, and Migration.” UTD-U.N. Conference on Women: “Advancing Women through Global Policy,” sponsored by the School of Social Sciences, UTD and the United Nations, Dallas Chapter,

held at The University of Texas at Dallas. Richardson, Texas. October 25.

### **Invited Lectures**

- 2010. “Ritual Liminality As ‘Holy Play.’” Lecture for second symposium “Holy Hiatus: Performing Ritual, Community, and Space” funded by The University of West England and held at Cardigan, Wales, United Kingdom. September 25.

I developed discussion of the concept of the “holy” I explored in my keynote address to the first symposium “Holy Hiatus” in 2008, examining the convergence of secular and religious definitions. The symposium was attended by faculty members and Ph.D. students in Performance Studies at the university, as well as practicing performance artists.

- 2008. “Public Art in the Ritual Construction of Human Community: Developments in the Cityscape.” Keynote address, first symposium “Holy Hiatus: Performing Ritual, Community, and Space” funded by The University of West England. Cardigan, Wales, United Kingdom. May 24.
- 1999. “The Role of Genealogical Research in Preserving and Building upon Local Community Histories.” Session on “Communities and Their Histories.” Conference on “Creating Our Future Trinity: Community Action Conference” sponsored by The Dallas Plan with The City of Dallas. Dallas, Texas. October 28.
- 1993. “Televangelism Reconsidered: Ritual within a Larger Social Drama.” First of three international symposia on “Media-Religion-Culture.” Uppsala University, Uppsala, Sweden. May 24.

The organizers of the symposium, Stewart Hoover, Ph.D. and Knut Lundby, invited to present my paper.

- 1993. “Television Religion in Recent American History.” American Historical Association, Regional Workshop for Teachers of History, held at The University of North Texas. Denton, Texas. October 30.

### **Papers Presented at Professional Society Meetings**

- 2004. “The Role of a Mexican Protestant Church and Its U.S. Missions in

Transnational Migration.” Joint Session of the Latino/a Religion, Culture, and Society Group and the Evangelical Theology Group, American Academy of Religion. San Antonio, Texas. November 21.

- 2002. “Social Mobility and Cultural Dissonance in a Transnational Mexican Pentecostal Church: A Case Study of the Dallas Mission.” Religion in Latin American and the Caribbean Group, American Academy of Religion. Toronto, Canada. November 24.
- 2002. “Social Mobility and Cultural Dissonance among Mexican Pentecostals: A Case Study of a Transnational Dallas Mission.” Society for the Anthropology of Religion, co-sponsored by the American Anthropological Association and the American Academy of Religion. Cleveland, Ohio. April 6.
- 2000. “Migration and Religion: Church Control as a Countervailing Force to Transnational Innovation in the Dallas Mission of a Mexico-Based Sect.” 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Annual Meeting of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion (SSSR) on “Religion and Transnationalism: Challenges of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.” Houston, Texas. October 22.
- 1997. “Mexican Immigrant Religion in the Resurgence of Ethnicity in Urban America.” Session on Religion and the Social Sciences, American Academy of Religion. San Francisco, California. November 24.
- 1992. “Televangelism Reconsidered: Ritual in the Service of Social Legitimation, Social Adaptation, Human Community, and Empowerment.” Roundtable Session, American Academy of Religion. San Francisco, California. November 22.
- 1992. “Televangelism: Ritual in the Service of the Empowerment of Its Marginalized Constituency.” Society for the Scientific Study of Religion. Washington, D.C. November 7.
- 1992. “What Is Missing in Our Understanding of the Attraction of Televangelism?: Ritual in the Search for Human Community.” Southwest Commission on Religious Studies (Southwest Region meeting of the American Academy of Religion and of the Association for the Scientific Study of Religion). Dallas, Texas. March 13.
- 1991. “How to Interpret Support for Televangelism from Outside It: Ritual in the Service of Social Legitimation and Social Change.” Roundtable Session, American Academy of Religion. Kansas City, Missouri. November 25.
- 1991. “Interpreting Support for Televangelism from the Outside: Recent Patterns.” Session on “Current Issues in Televangelism,” Society for the Scientific Study of Religion. Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. November 9.

- 1990. “Rituals of the Electronic Church: Robertson’s ‘700 Club’ and Falwell’s ‘The Old Time Gospel Hour’ in the Service of Social Legitimation and Social Adaptation.” Society for the Scientific Study of Religion. Virginia Beach, Virginia. November 11.
- 1989. “Electronic Storytelling: Televangelism’s Innovations with a Traditional Ritual Form.” Ritual Studies Group, American Academy of Religion. Anaheim, California. November 18.
- 1989. “Rituals of the Electronic Church: Performance in the Service of Social Protest and Social Change.” Society for the Scientific Study of Religion. Salt Lake City, Utah. October 29.
- 1989. “Rituals of the Electronic Church: Performance in the Service of Social Protest.” Southwest Commission on Religious Studies (Southwest Region meeting of the American Academy of Religion and of the Association for the Scientific Study of Religion). Dallas, Texas. March 11.
- 1988. “The Rituals of the Electronic Church: Performance in the Service of Social Conflict.” North American Religions Section, American Academy of Religion. Chicago, Illinois. November 21.
- 1987. “Grotowski’s Recent Theater Projects as Modern Rituals of Spiritual Healing.” Ritual Studies Group, American Academy of Religion. Boston, Massachusetts. December 5.
- 1986. “Pentecostal Ritual Reconsidered: Possession as ‘Anti-structure.’” Ritual Studies Group, American Academy of Religion. Atlanta, Georgia. November 23.

## **RESEARCH GRANTS**

### Federal

- “An Ethnographic/Social Science/Community-Based Model to Recruit and Retain

Hispanics”

Bobby C. Alexander, Project Director (PI)

U.S. Department of Education Fund for the Improvement of Post-Secondary Education (FIPSE)

September 1, 2003-August 31, 2004

As FIPSE Project Director, I secured a no-cost extension of the FIPSE grant by applying interest earned during the original period of the grant and tapping money that had not been expended during the original grant period.

The purpose of the FIPSE grant was to address Congressional Priorities 12 and 13 (1998): retain Hispanic students enrolled in two-year colleges, transfer them to four-year colleges and universities upon completion of the Associate’s degree, prepare them to graduate with a Bachelor’s, and enroll more Latino students as majors in the sciences.

- “An Ethnographic/Social Science/Community-Based Model to Recruit and Retain Hispanics”

Bobby C. Alexander, PI (beginning October 2001)

U.S. Department of Education Fund for the Improvement of Post-Secondary Education (FIPSE)

September 1, 2002-August 31, 2003

I secured a second no-cost extension of the grant.

- “An Ethnographic/Social Science/Community-Based Model to Recruit and Retain Hispanics”

Rita Mae Kelly, PI; Bobby C. Alexander, Co-PI (from September 1999 to October 2001)

U.S. Department of Education Fund for the Improvement of Post-Secondary Education (FIPSE)

September 1, 1999-August 31, 2002

\$600,000

I assisted Dean Rita Kelly, the original FIPSE Project PI, in preparing the proposal for the FIPSE grant.

#### Other Federal Grant Activity

- U.S. Department of Education Fund for the Improvement of Post-Secondary Education (FIPSE) Migration and Gender in the Globalization Context Program

During the Fall 2004 semester, following the departure from UTD of Laura

Gonzalez, Ph.D., the former Project Director of this second FIPSE grant project, I served as Project Director during the final phase of funding. Formerly known as the North American Mobility Project (NAMP), this international student-exchange program sent UTD students to The University of Guanajuato in Guanajuato, Mexico, and The University of Alberta in Alberta, Canada, and received students from these universities at UTD. I supervised a student from each of these universities during my term of office.

### University

- Special Faculty Development Assistance (SFDA) leave (sabbatical)  
Bobby C. Alexander  
UTD  
academic year 2006-2007  
three-quarters salary

My year-long sabbatical enabled me to draft a journal article and develop a book monograph on the contribution of Protestant church organization and egalitarian church doctrine to change in gender role for Mexican immigrant Pentecostal women, and, through such change, broader gender-related issues in the assimilation of Mexicans and the second generation in the United States.

I initiated these efforts while I was a Coolidge Fellow in the Summer Residency Program sponsored by CrossCurrents: Association for Religion and Intellectual Life, with the cooperation of Columbia University and Union Theological Seminary, in New York, New York, where I resided from July 5-28, 2006.

The leave also allowed me to complete a book examining barriers Hispanic community college students experience in transferring to four-year colleges and universities based on the U.S. Department of Education's FIPSE Project, of which I am one of two editors and one of the two primary authors, and to submit the book manuscript to potential publishers. The book is under contract with The Edwin Mellen Press and has received the first of two recommendations to publish by scholars in the field as required by the press.

My leave also allowed me to revise and correct page proofs for my co-authored journal article on barriers to transfer previously submitted to the *Journal of Hispanics in Higher Education*. The article, "New Challenges for Community Colleges: Hispanic Students, Immigrants, and the Transfer Process," co-authored with Victor Garcia, Laura Gonzalez, formerly of UTD, Geoffrey Grimes, and Dan O'Brien, formerly of UTD, was published in April 2007, 6(2):174-184. The journal is a publication of Sage Publications.

While on leave, I completed follow-up interviews with clients and staff members of the Human Rights Initiative of North Texas (HRI) for the Asylum Research Project being carried out by the UTD Asylum Research Team (ART).

- University Research Council Grant  
Bobby C. Alexander  
Southern Methodist University  
1990

Research and book on television religion

- Fund for Faculty Excellence Grant  
Bobby C. Alexander  
Southern Methodist University's Dedman College  
Summer 1990

Research and book on television religion

- Research Assistance Grant  
Bobby C. Alexander  
American Academy of Religion  
1988-1989

Research and book on television religion

- Fund for Faculty Excellence Grant  
Bobby C. Alexander  
Southern Methodist University's Dedman College  
Summer 1989

Research and book on television religion

#### Private Sources

- UTD Asylum Research Team (ART)  
Cannon Flowers, Executive Director, Human Rights Initiative of North Texas (HRI)  
The Overbrook Foundation  
Summer 2009  
\$7,500

I led a presentation by members of the UTD Asylum Research Team (ART) to the Director of The Overbrook Foundation in Fall 2008 that resulted in the renewal of the grant initially awarded by the foundation in 2007. All of the grants from the foundation were awarded directly to HRI, which dispersed the funds to the individual members of ART.

- UTD Asylum Research Team  
Cannon Flowers, Executive Director, Human Rights Initiative of North Texas (HRI)  
The Overbrook Foundation  
Summer 2008  
\$15,000

I assisted the Development Officer of HRI in writing two separate grant proposals to The Overbrook Foundation to fund the research of UTD's Asylum Research Team in Summer 2007 and Summer 2008.

- UTD Asylum Research Team  
Cannon Flowers, Executive Director, Human Rights Initiative of North Texas (HRI)  
The Overbrook Foundation  
Summer 2007  
\$12,500
- Oak Cliff Center for Community Studies (OCCCS)

A.  
Donor Grant  
The Dallas Women's Foundation  
July 2004  
\$5,000

In the final months of the FIPSE grant, I led the successful effort by principals of the FIPSE Project to secure a donor grant from the Dallas Women's Foundation (DWF). The grant, which was awarded through UTD, funded the transition from the U.S. Department of Education's FIPSE Project to the creation by former FIPSE Project principals of a new 501(c)(3) non-profit organization – the Oak Cliff Center for Community Studies (OCCCS). The OCCCS, which operated out of the physical site of the former FIPSE Project's ethnographic field station in Oak Cliff, continued and expanded the activities of the FIPSE Project. As President of the Board of Directors of the OCCCS, I wrote and submitted grant applications to a number of foundations, including the Dallas Women's Foundation and the Harold Simmons Foundation.

The OCCCS cooperated with Mountain View College (MVC), UTD's institutional partner in the FIPSE Project, in providing instructional staff for the "Cultural Studies" course offered by MVC. The OCCCS also made the ethnographic field station it operated available to train students enrolled in the course in ethnographic research. As the FIPSE Project had done, the OCCCS assisted students, particularly women, in applying to four-year institutions, applying for scholarships and other forms of financial assistance, and mentored the students and their parents as well as other members of students' families. The

OCCCS expanded the mission of the FIPSE Project by assisting high school students enrolled in Dallas Independent School District high schools in Oak Cliff, preparing them for and helping them apply to two-year and four-year colleges and universities, and apply for scholarships and financial aid. The OCCCS included students' parents as participants in its programs and activities in an effort to engage them more fully in supporting their children's higher education.

In the final months of the FIPSE grant I was instrumental in the initiation by administrators and faculty in the Dallas County Community College District of a new, successful FIPSE grant from the U.S. Department of Education. The new grant built upon the FIPSE Project's community and family model.

B., C., D., E., and F.

The Dallas Women's Foundation  
Harold Simmons Foundation  
TXU Electric

In my role as President of the Board of the OCCCS, I secured two additional grants from the Dallas Women's Foundation (2004 – \$19,125, and 2005 – \$15,000) to support programs and activities of the center, two grants from the Harold Simmons Foundation (2006 – \$20,000 and \$15,000) to support the salaries of the Executive Director and Assistant to the Director, and a grant from TXU Electric (2005 – \$1,000) to pay operating expenses.

- Junior Scholar Award and Research Grant  
Bobby C. Alexander  
Southwest Commission on Religious Studies (Southwest region of the American Academy of Religion  
1989-1990  
Around \$500

Research and book on television religion

#### Grant Proposals Submitted

- “Does Religion Affect Behavior? Influence of Religious Authority on Schooling Decisions in Africa”  
Simon Fass, PI; Bobby C. Alexander, Nathan Berg, Karl Ho, Co-PIs  
NSF  
2006  
\$150,000

I assisted UTD's Simon Fass, Ph.D. by writing drafts of the section of the proposal on “spiritual capital,” and by designing a questionnaire on religion

and schooling decisions to be administered to research subjects. The proposal was based upon the proposal submitted to the Metanexus Institute in 2005, which I also assisted Dr. Fass in preparing.

- “Spiritual Rationality, Education and Economic Progress: Lessons from Africa”  
Simon Fass, PI; Bobby C. Alexander, Nathan Berg, Karl Ho, Co-PIs  
Metanexus Institute  
2005  
\$150,000
- Engaging Latino Communities for Education (ENLACE)  
Kellogg Foundation  
2000

Representing UTD, along with Dean Rita Kelly of the formerly named School of Social Sciences, I was a member of the planning committee that submitted the grant proposal to the Kellogg Foundation. The grant proposed strengthening links between and among partners in education – particularly higher education, business, and government in enhancing educational opportunities for Latinos in the greater Dallas area. The planning committee was comprised of representatives of the Dallas County Community College District, area colleges and universities, and the Dallas Independent School District.

## **PROFESSIONAL AND UNIVERSITY CITIZENSHIP**

### **Professional Activities and Committees**

#### Editorships and Associate/Assistant Editorship

- Guest Editor, special issue of *Listening: Journal of Religion and Culture* devoted to the “Religions of America’s Immigrants,” 33(3) (Fall 1998).
- Editor, chapters on “The Study of Ritual” in *Anthropology of Religion: A Handbook of Method and Theory*, edited by Stephen D. Glazier. Westport, Connecticut: Greenwood Press, 1997.
- Editorial Assistant, 1984-1986, *Encyclopedia of Religion*, edited by Charles Adams, *et al.*; Mircea Eliade, Editor in Chief; and published by the The Macmillan Publishing Company.

#### Reviewer for Scholarly Journals

- Reviewer for *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion*
- Reviewer for *Journal of Ritual Studies*
- Reviewer for *Journal of Anthropological Research*
- Reviewer for *Journal of Religion and Popular Culture*
- Reviewer for *Research in Social Science and Disability* (2011)

#### Professional Organizations

- American Academy of Religion, Ritual Studies Group, Steering Committee, 1987-1990

#### Courses (past ten years):

2012, Fall	SOC 3325 Race, Ethnicity, and Community SOC 3347 Religion in International Development
2012, Spring	SOC 6V92 Research Workshop in Applied Sociology SOC 6353 Immigrants and Immigration in U.S. Society SOC 4337 Immigrants and Immigration in U.S. Society
2011, Fall	SOC 3333 Religion in Society
2011, Spring	SOC 6370, New Immigrant Religious Organizations and Assimilation (graduate seminar) SOC 3325 Race, Ethnicity, and Community
2010, Fall	SOC 3333 Religion in Society (New Immigrant Religious Organizations and Assimilation) SOC 3306 Professional Writing for Sociology
2010, Spring	SOC 5390 Immigration Policy (graduate seminar) SOC 4396 (SOC 4335) Immigrants, Immigration, and American Society
2009, Fall	SOC 6355 Race, Ethnicity, and Community (graduate seminar) SOC 3306 Professional Writing for Sociology
2009, Spring	SOC 4396 (SOC 4355) Immigrants, Immigration, and American Society SOC 3325 Race, Ethnicity, and Community
2008, Fall	SOC 3333, Religion in Society (New Immigrant Religious Organizations and Assimilation) SOC 3306 Professional Writing for Sociology
2008, Spring	SOC 6355 Race, Ethnicity, and Community (graduate seminar) SOC 4396 Religion in Society (New Immigrant Religious Organizations and Assimilation)
2007, Fall	SOC 3325 Race, Ethnicity, and Community SOC 3306 Professional Writing for Sociology

Fall 2006-Spring 2007: I was on Special Faculty Development Assistance (SFDA) leave.

2006, Spring	SOC 3325 Race, Ethnicity, and Community
	SOC 3306 Professional Writing for Sociology
2005, Fall	SOC 3333 Religion in Society (New Immigrant Religious Organizations and Assimilation)
	SOC 3306 Professional Writing for Sociology
2005, Spring	SOC 4335 Immigrants, Immigration, and American Society
	SOC 3306 Professional Writing for Sociology
2004, Fall	SOC 6355 Race, Ethnicity, and Community (graduate seminar)
	SOC 3325 Race, Ethnicity, and Community
2004, Spring	ISSS 4357 Religions
	SOC 1301 Introduction to Sociology
2003, Fall	SOC 4335 Immigrants, Immigration, and American Society
	SOC 1301 Introduction to Sociology
2003, Summer	ISSS 4357 Religions
2003, Spring	SOC 3325 Race, Ethnicity, and Community
	SOC 1301 Introduction to Sociology

#### Supervisor Senior Honor's Thesis and Independent Study

2012, Fall	SOC 5V91 Independent Study in Applied Sociology
2011, Fall	SOC 4V97 Independent Study
2006, Spring	SOC 4V99 Senior Honor's Thesis
	I supervised the Senior Honor's Thesis of three Sociology majors.
2006, Spring	POEC 8V01 Independent Study (Master's student)
2004, Spring	SOC 4V97 Independent Study
2003, Fall	SOC 4V97 Independent Study
2003, Spring	SOC 4V97 Independent Study
2002, Fall	SOC 4V97/4397.25 Independent Study in Sociology

#### Teaching Awards and Nominations

- Outstanding EPPS Faculty Comet Award, presented by the School of Economic, Political, and Policy Sciences, UTD, Spring 2011

This award is based on student nominations.

- Distinguished Teacher in Diversity and Multicultural Education Award, presented by UTD Office of Diversity and Community Engagement, Spring 2011
- Student Choice Teaching Award, presented by the students in the School of Social Sciences, UTD, Fall 1996, and Spring 2001

The award is given by students.

- Nominee, Chancellor's Council Outstanding Teaching Award, UTD, 1996, and 1997
- Nominee, Margareta Deschner Teacher Award, nominated by female students and awarded by the Women's Center, Southern Methodist University, 1988-1989, 1989-1990, and 1990-1991

### Departmental Committees

#### *UTD*

2012-2013

- Dissertation Committee #4, Program in Public Policy and Political Economy, School of Economic, Political, and Policy Sciences
- Dissertation Committee #5, Program in Public Policy and Political Economy, School of Economic, Political, and Policy
- Dissertation Committee #6, Program in Public Policy and Political Economy, School of Economic, Political, and Policy Sciences

2011-2012

- Sociology Program Committee, School of Economic, Political, and Policy Sciences
- Program in Public Policy and Political Economy, Graduate Admissions Committee
- Dissertation Committee #3, Program in Public Policy and Political Economy, School of Economic, Political, and Policy Sciences
- Dissertation Committee #4, Program in Public Policy and Political Economy, School of Economic, Political, and Policy Sciences
- Dissertation Committee #5, Program in Public Policy and Political Economy, School of Economic, Political, and Policy
- Co-Advisor, UTD Sociology Club

2010-2011

- Sociology Program Committee, School of Economic, Political, and Policy Sciences
- Dissertation Committee #2, Program in Public Policy and Political Economy, School of Economic, Political, and Policy Sciences
- Dissertation Committee #3, Program in Public Policy and Political Economy, School of Economic, Political, and Policy Sciences
- Dissertation Committee #4, Program in Public Policy and Political Economy, School of Economic, Political, and Policy Sciences

2009-2010

- Sociology Program Committee, School of Economic, Political, and Policy Sciences

2008-2009

- Sociology Program Committee, School of Economic, Political, and Policy Sciences
- Dissertation Committee #1, Program in Public Policy and Political Economy, School of Economic, Political, and Policy Sciences

2007-2008

- Sociology Program Committee, School of Economic, Political, and Policy Sciences
- Dissertation Committee #1, Program in Public Policy and Political Economy, School of Economic, Political, and Policy Sciences

2006-2007

- Sociology Program Committee, School of Economic, Political, and Policy Sciences
- Dissertation Committee #1, Program in Public Policy and Political Economy, School of Economic, Political, and Policy Sciences

2005-2006

- Sociology Program Committee, School of Economic, Political, and Policy Sciences
- Dissertation Committee #1, Program in Public Policy and Political Economy, School of Economic, Political, and Policy Sciences

2004-2005

- Dissertation Committee #1, Program in Public Policy and Political Economy, School of Economic, Political, and Policy Sciences

*Southern Methodist University*

1987-1989

- Member, Steering Committee for the Graduate Program in Religious Studies, Department of Religious Studies

School Committees

*UTD*

2011-2012

- Ad Hoc Committee for Mid-Probationary Tenure Review (Meghna Sabharwal, Ph.D.), School of Economic, Political, and Policy Sciences

2009-2010

- Ad Hoc Committee for Mid-Probationary Tenure Review, School of Arts and Humanities

2008-2009

- Ad Hoc Committee for Granting of Tenure and Promotion to the Rank of Associate Professor (Sheryl Skaggs, Ph.D.), School of Economic, Political, and Policy Sciences

2007-2008

- Reader, Qualifying Examination for graduate students in the School of Economic, Political, and Policy Sciences

2005-2006

- Ad Hoc Committee for Mid-Probationary Tenure Review, School of Social Sciences

2004-2005

- Ad Hoc Committee for Mid-Probationary Tenure Review, School of Social Sciences

2003-2004

- Quality Teaching Committee, School of Social Sciences

1999-2002

- Chair, Committee for Undergraduate Studies (CUS), School of Social Sciences

The CUS is comprised of Program Heads of the six undergraduate majors offered by the School.

1997-1999

- Quality Teaching Committee, School of Social Sciences

#### University Activities and Committees

*UTD*

2012-2013

- Committee on Research Involving Human Subjects (Institutional Review Board)

2011-2012

- Outside Chair, Ph.D. Final Oral Examination (Dissertation Defense), School of Arts and Humanities
- Faculty Advisor, UTD Intercultural Women Students Association

2010-2011

- Committee on University Calendar
- Faculty Advisor, UTD Baha'i Association

2009-2010

- Committee on University Calendar
- Ad Hoc Committee for Mid-Probationary Tenure Review for Monica Rankin, Ph.D., School of Arts and Humanities

- Faculty Advisor, UTD Baha'i Association

2008-2009

- Committee on Education Policy (CEP)
- Outside Chair, Ph.D. Final Oral Examination (Dissertation Defense), School of Arts and Humanities

- Faculty Advisor, UTD Baha'i Association

2007-2008

- Committee on Education Policy (CEP)
- Faculty Advisor, UTD Baha'i Association

2006-2007

- On Special Faculty Development Assistance (SFDA) leave

2005-2006

- Outside Chair, Ph.D. Final Oral Examination (Dissertation Defense), School of Arts and Humanities
- Faculty Advisor, UTD Baha'i Association

2004-2005

- Vice Chair, Committee on Student Scholarships
- Office of International Education Advisory Committee
- President's Ad Hoc Committee for Community Outreach
- Faculty Advisor, UTD Baha'i Association

2003-2004

- Chair, Committee on Education Policy (CEP)
- Committee on Core Curriculum (CCC), member Ex-Officio (as Chair of CEP)
- Outside Chair, Ph.D. Final Oral Examination (Dissertation Defense), School of Arts and

## Humanities

- Faculty Advisor, UTD Baha'i Association

2002-2003

- Committee on Education Policy (CEP)
- Planning Committee, UTD-U.N. Conference on Women, sponsored by the School of Social Sciences and the Dallas Chapter of the United Nations. Richardson, Texas. October 5-6, 2002
- Faculty Advisor, UTD Baha'i Association

2001-2002

- Council of Masters (College Masters/Associate and Assistant Deans for Undergraduate Education)
- Committee on Core Curriculum (CCC)
- Committee on Student Scholarships

2000-2001

- Council of Masters (College Masters/Associate and Assistant Deans for Undergraduate Education)
- Committee on Student Scholarships

1999-2000

- Council of Masters (College Masters/Associate and Assistant Deans for Undergraduate Education)
- Committee on Student Scholarships
- Planning Committee, UTD-U.N. Conference on Women, sponsored by the School of Social Sciences and the Dallas Chapter of the United Nations. Richardson, Texas. November 6-7, 1999

1998-1999

- Planning Committee, UTD-U.N. Conference on Women, sponsored by the School of Social Sciences and the Dallas Chapter of the United Nations. Richardson, Texas.

October 24-25, 1998

*Southern Methodist University*

1987-1989

- “The Un-Committee” (a voluntary committee of faculty from across the University addressing social issues and issues of social justice relevant to the university community)

Service to the Wider, Non-Academic and Academic Community

2007-present

- Member, Friends of Yale Institute of Sacred Music (Yale ISM),

I am in my fifth year as a member of the Board of Directors of the Institute of Sacred Music at Yale University (Yale ISM), known as Friends of Yale Institute of Sacred Music. The board advises the Director, Professor Marin Jean, and works with the ISM faculty in strategic planning for the Institute. Professor Jean appointed me to the board. In this role, I and my colleagues have advised the Director about creating the Institute’s strategic development plan; revising the Institute’s mission statement; creating an interdisciplinary, cross-cultural, global ISM Fellows program in Sacred Music, Worship, and the Arts and a related research center at the Yale ISM; launching the Congregations Project bringing practicing church musicians and church staff members to the Yale campus for a summer seminar; and creating a gallery space for sacred art and music sponsored by the ISM, among other initiatives.

2010

- Presenter, Fourth Annual “Youth Summit and Diversity Dialogue” sponsored by Congresswoman Eddie Bernice Johnson.

Congresswoman Johnson invited me to serve as one of three North Texas university faculty presenters to the summit her office sponsors. I lead the forum for three groups of middle and high school youth on “Addressing the Need for Social Change.” Southern Methodist University. August 17, 2010

2008-present

- Member, With One Voice

This body is a coalition of public and government institutions, including Dallas County's Parkland Hospital, and non-profit organizations providing a variety of services to immigrants in North Texas and advocating change in policy and U.S. law regarding refugees, individuals seeking political asylum, children, and other immigrants.

2004-2007

- President of the Board of Directors, Oak Cliff Center for Community Studies (OCCCS); and honorary Lifetime Member, Board of Directors, 2007-present

At the conclusion of the U.S. Department of Education FIPSE grant, I and other FIPSE Project principals co-founded this 501(c)(3) non-profit organization in the Oak Cliff neighborhood of Dallas, Texas. The OCCCS provided a variety of programs and services targeting Latino high school and community college students and their families that prepared students to enroll in colleges in the Dallas County Community College District and transfer to bachelor's degree-granting institutions upon completing the associate's degree. As President of the Board, I secured three grants from the Dallas Women's Foundation, two from the Harold Simmons Foundation, and a TXU Electric grant.

2001-2005

- Member, Resource Council for the New Americans Project

The members of this body, composed partly of university faculty in North Texas, serve as expert witnesses for individual immigrants involved in a variety of legal matters.