

EDUCATION

Georgetown University

Bachelor of Arts in Sociology, Social Justice Concentration, Minor: African American Studies | 2014

Cum Laude

Major GPA 3.773

Honors: Phi Alpha Theta National History Honor Society (2014)
Alpha Kappa Delta Honor Society of Sociology (2014)
Lena Landegger Community Service Award (2014)

University of Cambridge, Clare Hall

Master of Philosophy in Education (Arts, Creativity, Education, and Culture) | 2016

Gates Cambridge Scholarship
Distinction

Honors: First Class Distinction on Thesis (2016)

University of Michigan—Ann Arbor

Doctorate of Philosophy in Sociology | Expected: 2024

Rackham Merit Fellow
GPA: 3.953

Honors: Rackham Merit Fellowship (2018) Schweitzer Fellowship (2018)

TEACHING

University of Michigan 2020: Race and Ethnicity Learning Community, Center for Research on Learning and Teaching (Training and Professional Development), The College of Literature, Science, and The Arts (LSA)

University of Michigan 2020: Introduction to Sociology: Health and Society—SOC 302, Department of Sociology

University of Michigan 2019: Law and Society—SOC 354, Department of Sociology

Leadership Enterprise for a Diverse America Summer Institute at **Princeton University** 2019: Aspects of Leadership

Georgetown University 2017: The City: Approaches to Urban Studies—SOCI-209 “Detroit”, Department of Sociology

RESEARCH

University of Michigan: **Research Assistant** 2018-2019

Leaders and Laggards: Explaining Variation in University Responses to Sexual Violence in a Changing Legal Environment

University of Cambridge: **Thesis** 2015-2016

Started from the Bottom, Now We're Here": Exploring Hip-Hop's Usefulness and Barriers of Implementation within non-black Classrooms

Georgetown University: **Thesis** 2013-2014

Don't be a 'Playa Hater': Exploring the Value of Hip-Hop as Education Pedagogy

PRESENTATIONS

Paper: Sixth Annual ACGS Conference: Racial Orders, Racist Borders—*Amsterdam, The Netherlands* 2019

Colorblind Admissions: Black Student Self-Narration in U.S. University Admissions Processes (First Author)

Paper: **Invisible Trauma**, *Race and Racial Identities Workshop*, University of Michigan 2019

Panel: College Board: The Future of African Americans in Education—*Los Angeles, CA* 2019

Panel: SXSW Education: Leveraging Voices of Doubly Disadvantaged Student—*Austin, TX* 2019

Paper: **Unpacking How Predominantly White Institutions Assign Value to the Narratives and Identities of Black Students on Campus**, *Race and Racial Identities Workshop*, University of Michigan 2018

PUBLICATIONS & WRITINGS

Waller-Bey, Aya. Review of Marcus Hunter's *The New Black Sociologists: Historical and Contemporary Perspective*. *Contexts*. (To be submitted).

Waller-Bey, Aya M. (2019) “Universities must do more for graduate students’ mental health.” *The Hechinger Report*. Apr 2019. Web. <https://hechingerreport.org/opinion-graduate-students-mental-health/>

Waller-Bey, Aya M. (2016) "Fighting the politics of access to higher education". *University World News* [World News] Dec 2016. Web. <http://www.universityworldnews.com/article.php?story=20161205174452812>

Waller-Bey, Aya M. (2016) "Survivor's Guilt". *Huffington Post* [United Kingdom] May 2016. Web. http://www.huffingtonpost.co.uk/gates-cambridge-scholars/survivors-guilt_1_b_9867786.html

ADDITIONAL AWARDS

University of Michigan Rackham Graduate School: The Great Equalizer Award (2019)

This is someone who has been able to successfully manage many different and sometimes competing roles.

University of Michigan Rackham Graduate School: The Triumph Over Adversity Award (2019)

This is for someone who has overcome adversity during this past year.

University of Michigan Students of Color of Rackham: New Addition Award (2019)

First year graduate student who achieved and made outstanding strides during their first year at Michigan.

University of Cambridge Gates Cambridge Scholarship (2015)

The prestigious Gates Cambridge scholarships, which cover a full-time postgraduate degree in any subject at the University of Cambridge are awarded to only 40 people in the United States.

Georgetown University: Katherine Kraft Medal (2014)

The award is given each year to the graduating student who best manifested a spirit of humility, cooperation and commitment as a woman or man for others in all phases of his or her college life.

Georgetown Corp Coke Scholarship (2014)

The Corp Coke Scholarship rewards three Georgetown undergraduates for outstanding service to the community.

Georgetown Terrance Davis Spirit Award (2013)

This award recognizes a Georgetown University student who is full of energy and who empowers and uplifts other students, even in the face of adversity, in the spirit of Terrance Davis.

Teach for America Rising Fellow (2012)

Rising Leader Fellows distinguish themselves with their desire to channel their passion into concrete actions, whether in the form of awareness raising, service, or advocacy.

SELECTED ACTIVITIES

Rackham Graduate School: "King Talks"

November 2019-January 2020

- Selected in competitive application process as one of six student speakers to communicate the relevance of research to Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s legacy in a TED-talk style presentation at the U-M MLK Symposium theme "The (Mis)Education of US."

Department of Sociology First Gen Student Affinity Group Co-Chair

September 2019-Present

- Collaborate with co-chair to design programs to connect first-generation graduate students in the department to resources, units, and people on campus to increase visibility of the first-gen graduate student experience

Sociology Opportunities for Undergraduate Leaders (SOUL) Volunteer and Mentor

October 2018-Present

- Mentor undergraduate students and attend SOUL classes every fall to share my first-generation college story and advice to navigating higher education and post-graduate opportunities

National Center for Institutional Diversity (NCID): Young, Gifted and Resilient

September 2019-November 2019

- Designed and facilitated conference to promote student mental health and wellness at the University of Michigan for undergraduate and graduate students
- Managed the @UMichStudents Twitter page of over 24K followers and live tweeted conference highlights

Leadership Enterprise for a Diverse America Policy Corp Member

August 2018-May 2019

- Selected through a competitive application process to engage with policymakers and represent LEDA and their communities at education policy convenings throughout the country

The White House Summit on Advancing Postsecondary Diversity and Inclusion, Washington, DC **November 2016**

- Invited to join scholars, practitioners and educators at the White House to discuss challenges and strategies to access, affordability, equity, and inclusion in higher education

Georgetown University Affordability and Access Advisory Board Member, *Washington, DC* October 2016-July 2017

- Contributed to committee composed of students, faculty, staff, and administrators dedicated to examining critically the experiences of low-income and first-generation students and ensuring that all students regardless of socioeconomic status or background have the necessary tools and resources to succeed and thrive

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Arizona State University: Office of University Initiatives (UI), *Tempe, AZ*

July 2017-August 2018

University Innovation Fellow

- Led university-wide collaborations on key issues—education access, workforce development, postsecondary diversity and inclusion—prioritized by the Office of the President
- Organized and implemented ASU’s bi-annual Frank Rhodes Lecture featuring Rebecca Winthrop, a senior fellow and director of the Center for Universal Education at the Brookings Institution, boasted over 80 guests
- Convened two meetings with 32 diverse stakeholders across the university who engage with foreign guests and international programs/activities to build capacity; Curated and employed community-power problem solving exercises to share meaningful ideas and resources to solve the identified challenges of members
- Outlined key issues in the “New Higher Ed Advocacy Group Makes Nontraditional Students Its Priority” article and collaborated with UI’s research team to identify ASU’s resources that support nontraditional/post-traditional students. Collaborated with UI’s Design Specialist to develop a visual that highlights ASU’s resources and support for post-traditional students across the educational continuum

Leadership Enterprise for a Diverse America Summer Institute, Princeton, NJ

June 2015-August 2015

College Guidance Coordinator

- Oversaw a 7-week intensive academic program of 100 high achieving, underrepresented high school juniors that provided training in ethical leadership, critical thinking, and analysis of multifaceted texts
- Conducted one-on-one guidance meetings with 50 Scholars on weekdays to support their college process
- Facilitated "Mock Admissions" College Guidance class of 50 Scholars

Georgetown University Office of Undergraduate Admissions, *Washington, DC*

July 2014-June 2015

Admissions Officer & Coordinator of Multicultural Recruitment

- Reviewed applications for over 1000 candidates—Michigan, Ohio, Illinois, Indiana--and made admissions decisions
- Met with prospective students and parents and informed them of University Admissions policies, procedures, academic programs, cost of attendance and all other matters related to choosing a college
- Oversaw 9 Alumni Admissions Program Committee chairs that manage 100+ alumni interviewers in the Midwest
- Represented Georgetown University at college fairs targeted towards first generation and low-income college bound students, and in other states, to facilitate outreach to underrepresented communities
- Coordinated admitted student weekends in March and April with the Center for Multicultural Equity & Access to invite accepted African American, Mexican American and Native American students to free, overnight visit
- Organized and conducted fall high school visits and met with counselors and prospective students of over 84 high schools in the Midwest