

Institutional Education

Ph.D. Duquesne University, 2019

Communication and Rhetorical Studies

Dissertation: *Reclaiming Rhetorical Intersectionality: From Silence to Parrhesia and Attuned Listening*

M.S. Carnegie Mellon University, 2005

Heinz College

Master of Science in Educational Technology Management

B.A. Sarah Lawrence College, 1998

Awards and Honors

2021 Member – [Own Our Own](#) Entrepreneurship Academy

2020 Winner - [Advancing Black Arts in Pittsburgh Award](#)

2020 Nominee - [ATHENA Mentoring Award](#)

2019 Winner – [University of Pittsburgh Advancing Educational Excellence Award](#)

2015 2nd Place – Pennsylvania Communication Association Graduate Paper Award

2013 Winner – Chuck Cooper Graduate Scholar Award

2011 Nominee – Coro MLK Jr. Leadership Award

Selected Publications

Walker, Tahirah. “Review: There’s ‘Power in the Tongue’ and grace, too.” Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, 30 August 2022, <https://www.post-gazette.com/ae/books/2022/08/30/caitlyn-hunter-power-in-the-tongue-book-review/stories/202208090092>.

Walker, Tahirah. “Review: What happened to Char? 20 years later, Sharon Flake answers.” Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, 17 August 2022, <https://www.post-gazette.com/ae/books/2022/08/17/the-life-im-in-sharon-flake-book-review/stories/202208090075>.

Walker, Tahirah. “Review: 'The Prophets' is a period novel and seminar in Black queer culture.” Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, 28 June 2022, <https://www.post-gazette.com/ae/books/2022/06/28/robert-jones-the-prophets-review/stories/202206290007>.

Walker, Tahirah. “Review: 'Love Songs' a soaring opera of Black triumph, sorrow and double consciousness.” Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, 31 May 2022, <https://www.post->

[gazette.com/ae/books/2022/05/31/honoree-fanonne-jeffers-love-songs-of-web-dubois-book-review/stories/202205210037](https://www.gazette.com/ae/books/2022/05/31/honoree-fanonne-jeffers-love-songs-of-web-dubois-book-review/stories/202205210037).

Walker, Tahirah. "Letter to a future legendary: Affirming a Black child's gender identity." *PublicSource*, 10 June 2022, <https://www.publicsource.org/letter-to-a-future-legendary-affirming-a-black-childs-gender-identity/>.

Walker, Tahirah. "Ten Years in Turtle Creek." *PublicSource*, 26 May 2022, <https://www.publicsource.org/ten-years-in-turtle-creek-community-making-tahirah-walker/>.

Walker, Tahirah J. "Jamaica Kincaid in the Constellation of Womanist Literature." *Jamaica Kincaid*, by Mildred R. Mickle, Salem Press, a Division of EBSCO Information Services, Inc., 2021, pp. 3–14.

Walker, Tahirah J. "An Expansion of Womanist Literature in Jamaica Kincaid's *Lucy* and *The Autobiography of My Mother*." *Jamaica Kincaid*, by Mildred R. Mickle, Salem Press, a Division of EBSCO Information Services, Inc., 2021, pp. 154–167.

Walker, Tahirah J., and Lizette A. Muñoz Rojas. "Teaching and Gaining a Voice: A Rhetorical Intersectionality Approach to Pedagogy of Feminist Organizational Communication." *Management Communication Quarterly*, Nov. 2020, doi:10.1177/0893318920972692.

Walker, Tahirah. "Pittsburgh Educator Describes Racial Injustices in Higher Education." *PublicSource*, 16 July 2021, <https://www.publicsource.org/higher-education-pittsburgh-perspective/>.

Walker, Tahirah. "The Color of Still Waters: McBride, Obama and The Fierce Urgency of The New Now." *Critical Insights: James McBride*. edited by Mildred Mickle. Salem Press, 2018. Pp. 110-122.

Walker, Tahirah & Dostilio, L. D. (2018). *In the Voices of Our Neighbors: Effective and Respectful Engagement in Homewood*. Pittsburgh, PA: University of Pittsburgh Community Engagement Centers.

Conference Papers, Presentations, and Workshops

Walker, Tahirah, Onufer, L., & Rowland, C. "Meeting Faculty Where They Are: Tailoring Learning Communities to Meet Niche Needs." Session at POD Network Annual Conference, November 2019, Pittsburgh, PA.

Kear, Robin, & Walker, T. "White Privilege in Information" University of Pittsburgh Library System Workshop, September 2019.

Walker, Tahirah. Interview at American Talent Initiative Summer Institute, July 2019, Georgetown University, Washington, DC.

- Rowland, Charline and Walker, T. “Supporting Underrepresented Students: Collective Instructional and Mentoring Practices for College Success” Workshop at Greater Pittsburgh Higher Education Diversity Consortium (GPHEDC) Annual Professional Development Conference, November 2018, Pittsburgh, PA.
- Walker, Tahirah and Rowland, C. “Scenario Based Learning to Support Diversity and Inclusion” International Consortium for Educational Development, June 2018, Atlanta, GA.
- Walker, Tahirah. “Teaching Intersectional: Foundational Approaches to Contemporary Intersectionality Pedagogy” - American Psychological Association Webinar June 2018
- Walker, Tahirah. “Framework Gamework” - Pittsburgh Regional Faculty Symposium March 2018, Pittsburgh, PA.
- Walker, Tahirah. “Snap...Like...Share...Change: Social Media and High School Students Penn State Greater Allegheny Recruitment Visit Day October, 2016, McKeesport, PA.
- Walker, Tahirah. “Leadership Development” - Urban League of Greater Pittsburgh, Black Female Leadership Development Institute June 2016, McKeesport, PA.
- Walker, Tahirah. “Prison Abolition Rhetoric” - Rhetoric Society of America May 2016, Atlanta, GA.
- Walker, Tahirah. “Interpersonal Communication in American Abolitionist Letters” - Duquesne University Department of Communication and Rhetorical Studies Colloquium February 2016, Pittsburgh, PA.
- Walker, Tahirah (Panelist). “What Every Black Student Must Know to Excel” - Duquesne University Spiritan Division March 2015, Pittsburgh, PA.
- Walker, Tahirah. “Journey Around the World: China Study Abroad Project for Low-Income and First-Generation Students” Woodland Hills School District May 2012, Swissvale, PA.
- Walker, Tahirah. “Leadership Development” - Community College of Allegheny College Leadership Institute, March 2011, Pittsburgh, PA.
- Walker, Tahirah. “Fallingwater for TechGyrls: A Media and Arts Tour of Fallingwater for African -American Girls” - YMCA of Greater Pittsburgh at Fallingwater June 2010, Bear Run, PA.

Grants

- \$120K DOE Educational Opportunity Centers grant
- \$50K Highmark Corporation grant to support mental health initiatives among college students
- \$35K Grable Foundation professional development program grant
- \$15K Advancing Black Arts in Pittsburgh (Individual Artist) grant
- \$15K Birmingham Foundation adult education support grant

\$15K Target Stores educational enrichment (K-12) grant
\$5K Pittsburgh Child Guidance Foundation grant
\$2K Penn State Educational Equity grant

Teaching Experience 2005 - Present

Bethany College, University of Pittsburgh, Penn State University, and Duquesne University

Communication Arts and Sciences

Business and Professional Communication
Intercultural Communication
Public Speaking
Special Topics (One Bethany, Many Stories)

Education, Information Science, and Technology

World Technologies and Learning
Arts and Emerging Technologies in Popular Culture
Curriculum and Instruction

Social Sciences and History

Social Science Introduction: Urbanization
History of Black Arts in the Americas Since 1969
20th Century Black History

Other Professional Experience

Walker Learning Group - February 2020 - Founder and Content Creator

- Develop and promote inclusive literary content for content management and learning management systems.
- Serve as lead creator for www.BlackBookLady.com
- Hire and create contracts for contributing writers and creatives
- Raise funds for site support
- Create content on literature, arts, humanities, and career issues specifically related to women of color
- Provide consultations based on content expertise.
Clients include Bethany College, Federal Public Defender of Western PA, Penn State Greater Allegheny, Pitt School of Social Work, Kean University, Delsea Regional School District, Atlantic Community Charter Schools, and Legacy Arts Project
- Lend and curate Black Arts media via The Carolyn Memorial Library

Bethany College - AY 2020-2021

Executive Director of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion and Assistant Professor of Communications and Media Arts

- Serve in special year of establishing DEI initiatives at the college
- Address student DEI concerns via restorative practices and reconciliation planning

- Provide president's cabinet with recommendations and suggestions to build a strong ecosystem of DEI programs
- Establish fund for programs to support DEI celebrations and events
- Plan and coordinate events for Native Heritage Month, Black History Month, Women's History Month, Pride Celebrations, Muslim Students Association functions and International Students Program functions.
- Design and teach seminar courses

University of Pittsburgh - 2017-2020 Manager of Learning Design 2018 - 2020

- Manage team of Teaching Consultants and Graduate Student Teaching Initiative
- Plan and implement 6-week Provost's Diversity Institute for Faculty Development
- Provide consultation and design services to faculty
- Manage Researchers' Writing Groups
- Fulfill duties of Teaching Consultant and Instructional Designer for a limited number of departments and schools (details described below)

Teaching and Learning Consultant 2017 - 2018

- Develop and design instructional elements of courses with instructors
- Develop and design workshops to support instructors
- Conduct observations and consultations to improve instructional performance across a variety of educational environments
- Deliver excellent customer service and communication to instructors and other Teaching Commons stakeholders
- Provide support and creative specialization to faculty programs in diversity and inclusion and other faculty learning communities
- Collect and disseminate current pedagogical research
- Represent the Teaching Center at conferences in both local and national settings
- Collaborate with others to produce effective advancement and support programming

Penn State University, 2005 - 2017

College of Education Faculty Member, Advisor, and Program Director 2012 - 2017

- Teach courses in Curriculum and Instruction
- Partner with local school districts and after school development programs
- Provide academic enrichment and tutoring services from college students to group of app. 100 students from grades K-12.
- Measure effectiveness of tutoring and other academic enrichment provided by the program
- Provide coaching and fieldwork opportunities for pre-service teachers
- Advise students in majors of their choice
- Develop community outreach programming specifically designed to assist minority and other disadvantaged students reach their college goals

Program Director – Educational Opportunity Centers of SW Pennsylvania 2008 – 2012

- Manage a team of counselors and support staff responsible for serving 2,000 program participants across 9 counties of Southwestern PA
- Assure program participants had access to assistance with admissions, financial aid processes, enrollment services and retention services
- Launch first study abroad trip for low-income and first-generation students
- Co-founder of Study of Hip Hop Conference
- Administered \$2.1M budget