

**Mzilikazi Koné, PhD**  
MKONE@UCLA.EDU

## Education

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### **University of California Los Angeles**

PhD in Political Science, Concentrations: Race, Ethnicity and Politics, Comparative Politics, filing date: September 2014  
Research Focus: Sex-workers, Political Organizing, Costa Rica  
Dissertation: Sex Worker Political Development in Latin America: from Informal Solidarities to Formal Organizing  
Dissertation Committee: Mark Q. Sawyer (Chair), Lorrie Frasure-Yokley, Edmond Keller, Amalia Cabezas (UC Riverside, Department of Ethnic Studies)

### **University of California Los Angeles**

Master of Arts: Political Science: 2010  
Thesis: Black Intersectional Organizing in the time of AIDS: The Case of MUDHA (Movement of Haitian Dominican Women)

### **University of Chicago**

Graduation Date: March 2007  
Master of Arts: Latin American and Caribbean Studies  
Thesis: The Role of Community Work: HIV Prevention for Haitian Women in the Dominican Republic

### **Indiana University Bloomington, Honors College**

Graduation Date: August 2005  
Bachelor of Arts with High Distinction  
Majors: Spanish, Individualized Major Program: Human Rights with a focus in Latin America, Departmental Honors  
Thesis: A Collaborative Effort: Women Community Organizers and Academic Researchers in the Dominican Republic

### **Pontificia Universidad Católica Madre y Maestra**

Santiago, Dominican Republic, August-December 2004

**Universidad de la Habana**, Havana, Cuba, January-June 2004

## Teaching Experience

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Summer 2017. Lecturer. UCLA, M182. "African American Politics". Political Science Department, Los Angeles, CA.

Spring 2017. Lecturer. PS 1 (3 Sections), Introduction to Government, Political Science, College of the Desert, Palm Desert, CA.

Winter 2017. Lecturer. UC Irvine, AfAm156. "African Feminisms/Global Black Feminisms." African American Studies Department, Irvine, CA.

Fall 2016. Lecturer. PS 1 (3 Sections), Introduction to Government, Political Science, College of the Desert, Palm Desert, CA.

Spring 2014. Seminar Instructor. UCLA. GE 20. "Race and the Sex Industry." Freshman Cluster Program, Interracial Dynamics in American Society and Culture

Fall 2013 - Winter 2014. TA. UCLA. GE 20, Interracial Dynamics in American Society and Culture, Jeff Decker, Valerie Matsumoto, Vilma Ortiz and Mark Sawyer

Spring 2013. Seminar Instructor. UCLA. GE 20. "Rethinking Sex Work: Exploring Race, Gender and Romance in Latin America and the Caribbean." Freshman Cluster Program, Interracial Dynamics in American Society and Culture

Winter 2013. TA. PS 149. UCLA. The Politics of American Suburbanization with Lorrie Frasure

Fall 2012. TA. PS 154C. UCLA, The Black Experience in Latin America with Mark Sawyer

Spring 2011. TA. PS 140B. UCLA, The Presidency with Scott James

Winter 2011. TA. PS 149. UCLA, The Politics of American Suburbanization with Lorrie Frasure

Fall 2010. TA. PS 154C. UCLA, The Black Experience in Latin America with Mark Sawyer

Spring 2010. TA. PS 50. UCLA, Introduction to Comparative Politics with Mike Thies

Winter 2010. TA. PS 114C. UCLA, African American Politics with Mark Sawyer

Fall 2009. TA. PS 154C, UCLA, The Black Experience in Latin America with Mark Sawyer

## Awards/Honors

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- Department of Political Science Graduate Student Nominee for UCLA University-wide Distinguished Teaching Award [2014]
- Center for the Study of Women Travel Grant [2013]
- UCLA Teaching Mini - Grant [2013]
- Faucett Fellowship - Latin American Institute Field Research Grant [2012]

- Honorable Mention-Ford Foundation Dissertation Fellowship [2012]
- UCLA-Graduate Student Research Mentorship [2010, 2011]
- Honorable Mention- Ford Foundation Pre-doctoral Fellowship [2010]
- UCLA - UC DIGSSS Fellow [2009]
- UCLA- Tinker Field Research Grant [2009]
- UCLA Eugene V. Cota-Robles Fellow [2008-2013]
- UC - Cuba Graduate Student Mini Grant [2009]
- University of Chicago Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies Field Research Grant [2006]
- University of Chicago Humanities Division Conference Presentation Travel Grant, [2005]
- University of Chicago Center for the Study of Race, Politics, and Culture Mini Research Grant, [2005]
- Deans List, Indiana University, six semesters
- Phi Beta Kappa [2005]
- Hutton Honors College/Individualized Major Capstone Award- [June 2005]
- Union Board Rosemary Tanner Scholarship [2003 and 2004]  
[Awarded to the most outstanding woman director of the Indiana Memorial Union Board exemplifying inspired leadership and enthusiastic support for the goals of the Union Board and the Indiana Memorial Union]
- Ronald E. McNair Scholar [2003-2005]
- Student Leadership Recognition Award, Indiana University [2003]
- Blue Key National Honor Society [2003]
- Veritas Award, Santa Catalina School [2001]
- Herman B Wells Scholar [2001-2005]  
[Full four-year merit scholarship to Indiana University Bloomington]

## **Selected Writing and Research Experience**

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Koné, Mzilikazi. “Sex Worker Activism in Latin America: Costa Rica’s Asociación La Sala.” UCLA Center for the Study of Women, Newsletter. Summer 2014.

-----. Transnational Sex Worker Organizing in Latin America: RedTraSex, Labor and Human Rights. *Journal of Social and Economic Studies*. 65: 4 (2016): 87-108.

-----. Black Intersectional Organizing in the time of AIDS: The Case of MUDHA. In Review at the *National Political Science Review*. Fall 2016.

-----. “Zombies, Haiti and (Sex) Workers: On Relating to Modernity/ Coloniality and Subalterity.” UCLA Center for the Study of Women. *Thinking Gender Papers*. <http://www.international.ucla.edu/institute/article/132098>. 4-1-2010.

### **Research Study Coordinator**

University of Chicago Hospitals, Department of Obstetrics/Gynecology

[August 2006-July2008] Chicago, IL Dr. M Gilliam, Section Chief, Family Planning and Contraceptive Research

- Duties include leading and organizing a qualitative/quantitative research study on repeat pregnancy in African American and Latina teen mothers. Recruit and retain study participants [50 of 100 new mothers total], organize data, and conduct five field interviews with each study participant over the course of a year. Have conducted 96 ethnographic interviews with study participants. Prepared Institutional Review Board forms and addendums, assisted in updating of interview guides for field interviews.

### **McNair Scholar**

[Summer 2005] Bloomington, IN Prof. E. Maguire, Advisor

- Researched and produced a paper entitled: “A Unique Resemblance: Afro-Women of the Diaspora and Coalition Building for HIV Prevention”

[Summer 2003] Bloomington, IN Prof. A Diaz and Prof. S. Karpa-Wilson, Advisors

- Researched and produced a paper entitled “Carolina and Reyita; Inserting Cuban and Brazilian Women in Black Feminist Thought and Theory”
- Article about author and McNair research project written by Karen Grooms published in *IU Research and Creative Activity Magazine*, Undergraduate Issue. Volume 26 Number 2. Spring 2004.

<http://www.indiana.edu/~rcapub/v26n2/whirlwind.shtml>

## **Leadership Experience**

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### **Santa Catalina School Alumnae Association, Vice President of Nominations**

[Fall 2011-Spring 2014]

- Coordinate the alumnae awards and nominations to the Alumnae Board.

### **Graduate Students of Color, Co-Coordinator, UCLA**

[Spring 2009-Spring 2011]

- Organize social and political events for graduate students.

### **Santa Catalina School Alumnae Association, Board Member**

[Fall 2006-Fall 2011]

- Assist the board in idea creation and implementation for fundraising for scholarships and work in planning for annual reunions.

### **Santa Catalina School, Class Agent**

[Fall 2005-2010]

- Work to increase alumnae participation in annual giving toward scholarship programs.

### **Indiana Memorial Union Board**

[2002-2004] Bloomington, IN

Elected leadership positions for programming and leadership.

**Vice President for Membership (01/03-01/04)**

- Organized events for recruitment and retention of new Union Board members, including committee member retreat, recruitment events, and committee member inductions.
- Responsible for planning Union Board Biennial Reunion, an alumni weekend that brings back 150 former Union Board Directors, Family Weekend, and committee member appreciation events.

**Summer Co-President (05/03-08/03)**

- Presided over the Union Board, ran board meetings, represented the board in summer events.

**Lectures Director (01/02-01/03)**

- Responsible for a budget of over \$70,000 in Lectures programming and provided multiple lectures, including: Spike Lee, Margaret Cho, Howard Zinn, Nikki Giovanni, and Gloria Steinem.
- Led weekly student meetings to facilitate student involvement.
- Met with major campus figures to coordinate programs.

**Student Coalition Co-Convenor**

[September 2003 – May 2005] Bloomington, IN

- Leader for student group through the larger umbrella group of the Commission on Multicultural Understanding.
- Worked to encourage cooperation and coalitions among student groups in order plan anti-racism events, as well as to organize for changes on the university campus.

**GenderTALK Facilitator**

[Fall 2003] Bloomington, IN

- Worked with another facilitator in a small group of students to discuss topics of gender, including how gender related issues are perceived, as well as issues of power and privilege.

**Indiana University Admissions Office, Preview Team**

[Fall 2003] Bloomington, IN

- Attended large recruitment meetings for high achieving high school students to discuss life as an out-of-state student, student involvement, as well as educational and activity related resources available to students.

**Student Body President, Santa Catalina School**

[2000-2001] Monterey, CA

- Led school senate, ran school assemblies, and worked as a liaison between the school student body and the administration.

## **Conferences and Presentations**

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### **National Conference of Black Political Scientists**

[March 16-18, 2017] San Diego, California

Presented: Black Women in Politics Oral History Project, “The Scholarship of Kimala Price”

### **Black History Month Talk, College of the Desert Community College**

[February 28, 2017] Palm Desert, CA

Invited Speaker by Associated Students of College of the Desert (ASCOD)

### **Election 2016 Talk, Community Talk, Senior Living Facility**

[November 8, 2016]

Invited Speaker by The Atria Hacienda Senior Living to discuss the 2016 election

### **Western Political Science Association**

[March 24-26, 2016] San Diego, California

Presented: Roundtable “Higher Education as a Terrain for Decolonial/Abolitionist Struggles and Resistance”

### **Caribbean Studies Association**

[May 25-30, 2015] New Orleans, Louisiana

Presented: “Transnational Sex Worker Organizing: RedTraSex, Labor and Human Rights”

### **Western Political Science Association**

[March 28-30, 2013] Hollywood, California

Presented: “Developing Empowerment and Leadership from the Ground Up: A Case Study on Costa Rican Sex Workers”

### **Shifting Social Landscapes- Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies, Graduate Student Conference, Indiana University**

[February 15-16, 2013] Bloomington, Indiana

Presented: “Developing Empowerment and Leadership from the Ground Up: A Case Study on Costa Rican Sex Workers”

### **Guest Lecture, UCLA Class-The Black Experience in Latin America, Prof Mark Sawyer**

[December 2, 2010] UCLA

“Rethinking Sex-Work: Exploring Race, Gender and Economy in the Caribbean”

### **Rastafari Studies Conference**

[August 2010] Kingston, Jamaica

Presented: “The Use of Rasta Aesthetic and Productions of Power: Tourism, Gender and Sexuality”

### **Latin America: Crisis and Opportunities-UC Riverside Conference**

[April 2010] Riverside, CA

Presented: “On Researching Sex-Work in Cuba: Collective Identity, Youth and Resistance”

**Thinking Gender Conference-UC Los Angeles**

[February 2010] Los Angeles, CA

Presented: “Zombies, Haiti and (Sex) Workers: On Relating to Modernity/Coloniality and Subalterity”

**How Do UC-Cuba? Graduate Student Workshop**

[April 2009] Los Angeles, CA

Presented: “Sex-Working: Stigma, Intersectionality and Quotidian Politics in Cuba and Jamaica”-Research Proposal

**National Conference of Black Political Scientists**

[March 2007] San Francisco, CA

Presented: “Island Exchanges: HIV Prevention for Haitian Women in the Dominican Republic”

**Center for Latin American Studies MA Student Conference**

[November 2007] Chicago, IL

Presented: “Transitioning into non-academic careers”

**Center for Latin American Studies MA Student Conference**

[November 2006] Chicago, IL

Presented: Field work and data for M.A. thesis on HIV and the Dominican Republic

**VI International Conference on Women in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century**

[November 2005] Havana, Cuba

Presented: “A Unique Resemblance: Afro-Women of the Diaspora and Coalition Building for HIV Prevention”

**McNair National Conference**

[Fall 2003] Delavin, Wisconsin

Presented: Poster for “Carolina and Reyita; Inserting Cuban and Brazilian Women in Black Feminist Thought and Theory”

**Indiana State University Academic Conference**

[Summer, 2003] Terre Haute, IN

Presented: “Carolina and Reyita; Inserting Cuban and Brazilian Women in Black Feminist Thought and Theory”