

L. KAIFA ROLAND

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Education

Ph.D. in Cultural Anthropology, Duke University, 2004
M.A. in African Studies, Howard University, 1994
B.A. in Third World Studies (Africa/Latin America), Oberlin College, 1991

Research and Teaching Interests

Anthropology and Race
Comparative of Caribbean Cultures
Cuban Culture and Nationalism
Intersectionality
Global Black Studies
Race, Gender, and Entrepreneurship

Academic Positions

Clemson University, *Director, Global Black Studies Program* (formerly Pan-African Studies) and *Associate Professor of Interdisciplinary Studies (Anthropology)*, August 2021–present. Tasked with building the undergraduate major (3-year contract). Courses taught: Black Women and the Pursuit of Happiness, Introduction to Pan-African Studies

University of Colorado at Boulder, *Chair, Women and Gender Studies*, July 2020–July 2021. *Associate Professor of Anthropology*, 2006–2021. Courses taught: Advanced Seminar in Cultural Anthropology (graduate seminar); Anthropology and the Next Generation of Star Trek; Anthropology and Race (graduate seminar); Anthropology of Tourism; Bridging ‘Race:’ Culturally and Biologically (De)Constructed (graduate bridging seminar co-instructor with Robin Bernstein); Brown Studies: A Toolkit for and about the Multiracial; The Caribbean in Post-Colonial Perspective (including honors section); Core Seminar in Cultural Anthropology (graduate seminar); Cuban Culture: Race, Gender, and Power; Ethnography and the Ethnographic (graduate seminar); First Year Global Experience (Leeds School of Business – Cuba); Global Seminar (study abroad): Race, Gender, and Tourism in Cuba; Popular Culture(s); Zora Neale Hurston

Kenyon College, *Visiting Professor in Anthropology*, 2004–2006. Courses taught: Cuban Culture: Race, Gender, and Power; Zora Neale Hurston, Anthropologist; Introduction to Cultural Anthropology

Kenyon College, *Visiting Instructor in Anthropology/Dissertation Fellow*, 2003–2004. Courses taught: Contemporary Culture in Cuba and the Caribbean, Anthropology of Tourism

Duke University, Instructor, Spring 2003 and Fall 1999. Courses taught:
Contemporary Culture in Cuba and the Caribbean, University Writing Program

Leadership Experience and Training

Director, Global Black Studies, July 2021–present: Supervisor to 1 administrative staff, 1 lecturer, 1 graduate assistant or work study student. Responsible for course curriculum, budget management, and advising all undergraduate majors. Coordinate with Steering Committee. Maintain regular communications with Interdisciplinary Program leaders, Dean of College of Architecture Arts and Humanities (CAAH), and CAAH department chairs. Serve on joint-hire search committees. Write grant applications to support long-term program development. Organize and lead study abroad opportunities.

President’s Leadership Institute (Clemson University, AY23–24)

Chair, Women and Gender Studies, July 2020–June 2021: Supervisor to 11 faculty (including 3 junior faculty), 2 administrative staff, and 6 adjunct/lecturers. Responsible for course curriculum and scheduling, salary merit allocations, coordination and communications between senior administration and department, budget management, and strategic hiring

Academic Leadership Institute (CU Boulder)

- New Leaders Orientation, August 13-14, 2020
- Courageous Conversations and Cultural Collisions: Ways for Academic Leaders to Stand Against Racism and Create Systemic Change (Donna Mejia), August 18, 2020
- Why and How Leaders Can Create More Inclusive Units (Stefanie Johnson), August 18, 2020
- Getting You Prepared Workshop: Comprehensive Review, Reappointment, Promotion, and Tenure (Michelle Moses), September 17, 2020
- Comprehensive Review Nitty Gritty Workshop, Reappointment, Promotion, and Tenure (Michelle Moses), September 24, 2020
- Crucial Accountability Workshop (Alyssa Willet and Suzanne Soled), January 11-13, 2021
- Innovate Hour: Social Intelligence (Lauren Harris), March 10, 2021
- Getting You Prepared Workshop: The Complex World of University and Academic Budgets (Carla Ho-a and Ann Schmiesing), April 2021

Research and Innovation/RIO Program Faculty Fellow (CU Boulder), 2018–2019, additional monthly workshops 2020–2021

Publications

Books

2011. *Cuban Color in Tourism, and La Lucha*. New York: Oxford University Press.

Peer-Reviewed Articles

2022. "P Equals Pass: Reflections of a Perfectionist on Surviving the Professoriate" *Journal of Colorism Studies*, 4(1):1–9. Special issue: Mastered and Phdished: Reflections of Women of Color in Higher Education.

2020. "Black Hair Everywhere!" *Journal of Anthropological and Archaeological Sciences* 1(4): 94–97.

2017. "How Bodies Matter: Yesterday's America Today." *HAU: Journal of Ethnographic Theory* 7(1): 441–447 (Post-Election Colloquium).

2013. "T/Racing Belonging Through Cuban Tourism." *Cultural Anthropology*. 28(3):395–418.

2010. "Tourism and the Commodification of *Cubanidad*." *Tourist Studies*. 10(1):3–18

2006. "Tourism and the *Negrificación* of Cuban Identity." *Transforming Anthropology*. 14(2):151–162.

Chapters in Edited Volumes

2023. "T/Racing Belonging Through Cuban Tourism" in *Insights on Latin America and the Caribbean: An Ethnographic Collection*. Melanie A. Medeiros and Jennifer R. Guzmán, eds. University of Toronto Press.

Accepted (April 23, 2022). "Critical Times, Critical Measures: Black Lives, Black Deaths, and the Specter of Hegemony" in *Surpassing Survival: Black Bodies on the Frontlines of Anti-Racism*. Victor Garcia, ed.

2014. "Between Belonging and the F/Act of Niggerisation." In *Trayvon Martin, Race, and "American Justice: Writing Wrong*. K.J Fasching-Varner, A. Dixson, R. Reynolds, K. Albert, eds. Rotterdam, The Netherlands: Sense Publishers.

Invited Articles in Edited Volumes, Blogs and Journals

2015. "I Will Not Call Her Name: An Ethno-Poem on Racial and Gendered Violence." *Savage Minds: Notes and Queries in Anthropology* (blog).

2015. "Moving Beyond Microaggressions: In Hale and Beyond." *Hale Herald* Vol 23(16: December 8).

2014. "The Future at Last: Unraveling the Embargo on Cuba." *Savage Minds: Notes and Queries in Anthropology* (blog).

2008. "After Fidel, Much the Same." Round-table commentary for *Transforming Anthropology* 16(1):72–73).

2002. "Yolanda T. Moses: 1996-1997" in *Celebrating a Century of the American Anthropological Association: Presidential Portraits*, eds., Regna Darnell and Frederic W. Gleach. American Anthropological Association, Lincoln, NE, University of Nebraska Press.

Book Reviews (Published)

2020. Sounds of Vacation: Political Economies of Caribbean Tourism. *Journal of Anthropological Research* (Winter 2020).

2017. Resisting Paradise: Tourism, Diaspora, and Sexuality in Caribbean Culture. *New West India Guide*.

2016. Black Writing, Culture, and the State in Latin America. *Journal of Latin American Geographers*.

2014. The Disappearing Mestizo: Configuring Difference in the Colonial New Kingdom of Granada. *Journal of Latin American Geographers*.

2014. Sexual Revolutions in Cuba: Passion, Politics, and Memory. *Journal of Latin American Studies* (May 2014).

2012. Take Me to My Paradise: Tourism and Nationalism in the British Virgin Islands. *Journal of Latin American and Caribbean Anthropology*, Vol. 17(2).

Works in Progress

Under contract (August 2023). *Minding Her Business: AfroCubana Tourism Entrepreneurs* (fully drafted book project with Rutgers University Press)

In progress: "Four Women: AfroCubana Entrepreneurial Experiences" (journal article for *American Ethnologist*)

In progress: Cuba Through Fresh Eyes: Inquiry and Insights by First Time Travelers (journal article for submission to *Cuban Studies*)

In progress: Single Mama, No Drama: I am Not Your *Negra* (book project for submission to Black Studies presses)

In progress: Swag, That Thang, and Other Gendered Performances of Blackness (collaborative book project with theater and education scholars)

Awards and Fellowships (last 10 years)

GBS Fulbright Scholar-in-Residence (Fellow Paulette Ramsay), Spring 2024
Graduate School Outstanding Faculty Mentor Award, (CU Boulder), 2020
CU Senior Scholar Nominee, Andrew Carnegie Fellows Program, 2020
Research and Innovation/RIO Program Faculty Fellow (CU Boulder), 2018–2019
Leadership Education for Advancement and Promotion/LEAP-Sponsored
Associate Professor Growth Grant (CU Boulder), 2018–2019
Center to Advance Research in the Social Sciences Award, (CU) 2010/2014

Research Conducted

Second Book Project: Afro-Cubana *Casa* Entrepreneurs (2015-2019)

Doctoral Dissertation: “*El Color No Importa?* Tourism and Race in Contemporary Cuba”

Master’s Thesis: “Manifestations of African Consciousness in Brazil: The Evolution of the *Movimento Negro Unificado*”

Scholarly Conferences and Presentations (last 10 years)

Papers Presented at Conferences

“Critical Race Theory: What It Is, and What It Ain’t” Creating Habits and Norms Guiding Ethical Decisions (CHANGE). Clemson University. March 31, 2022.

“Race Is, Race Ain’t: On Bodies and Belonging” Embodiment and Race II Conference, Clemson University. November 4, 2021.

“Diversity & Inclusion Research & Praxis in a Color-Blind Context,” Globalizing Diversity and Inclusion Research: Designing a Transnational Approach to Promoting Educational Access and Equity for Racial and Minoritized Communities around the World. The Expertise Centre for Diversity Policy (ECHO) International Summit, The Hague, the Netherlands. January 16-21, 2020.

“Touring Cuba in Black: Winning Women in Cuban Touristic Entrepreneurship” Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association, Washington, DC. December 1, 2017.

“21st Century Resistance, Protest, and Ethnography in the African Diaspora” Panel Discussant, Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association, Washington, DC. November 30, 2017.

“Beyond #Resist” Center to Advance Research in the Social Sciences (CARTSS), #Protest Forum. Boulder, Colorado. November 1, 2017.

“Identity Crisis” International Congress of the Latin American Studies Association, Washington, DC. June 1, 2013.

Invited Presentations and Colloquia (last 10 years)

“[Bringing Cultural Talks to the Table: Black Studies and Experiences in Cuba](#),”

This Prof Life: Women of Color in Higher Education (podcast interviewee)

<https://www.drpatanders.com/>. July 18, 2023.

“Critical Race Theory vs Replacement Theory: When Praxis is Deadly”

Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) Diversity Seminar. Clemson University. May 26, 2022.

“Critical Race Theory: What It Is, and What It Ain’t.” Clemson University Student Senate. April 4, 2022.

“Perceptions of Infrastructural Needs in the Global Black World” Class Talk: Clemson Engineering for Developing Countries. October 29, 2021.

“My Path to the Professoriate (and Beyond),” Faculty Network Colloquium Talk, Miramontes Arts and Sciences Program (MASP), University of Colorado-Boulder. March 31, 2021.

“What I Learned from the Toughest Conversations I’ve Had in my Career,” Grounded Knowledge Panelist. Center for Teaching and Learning. November 18, 2020 (with pre-GKP sessions on October 28, November 4, and 11).

“Thriving in Community: Identities on Campus,” Panelist, Thriving at CU: A New Faculty Series. Zoom online event, October 22, 2020.

“Black and Indian and Biracial Woman: A VP Forum,” Organizer and Moderator, Women and Gender Studies. Zoom online event, October 21, 2020. Accessible at: <https://www.colorado.edu/wgst/VP-Forum>.

“Cuba Becomes Her,” Research & Innovation Office Community Ted-style Talk. Dairy Arts Center, Boulder, Colorado. October 15, 2019. Accessible at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vk_ICRZeK6s.

“Intersectionality and Nationalism: The Impact of Colonialism in the Caribbean on the Lived Experiences of Black Women at Home and Abroad,” Panelist, Internationalization Summit, University of Denver, April 11, 2019.

“Minding Her Own Business: AfroCubana Entrepreneurial Experiences,” Symposium Presenter and Co-organizer: Race, Gender, and Revolution: Examining Rebellion and Rebelliousness in Cuba and Its Diaspora, University of Colorado-Boulder. September 21, 2018.

“Navigating Racialized Space: Notes on Bodies and Borders,” Panel Discussant, Borders Conference, University of Colorado-Boulder, September 30, 2017.

“Shades of Belonging in Cuban Tourism,” Guest Lecture, Introduction to Culture and Society (Instructor: Dr. Mary Slade). California State University-San Bernardino, CA. May 16, 2016.

“The More Things Change... Touristic Nostalgia in Tomorrow’s Cuba,” California State University-San Bernardino, CA. May 16, 2016.

“The More Things Change... Touristic Nostalgia in Tomorrow’s Cuba,” Cuba in Transition Symposium. Colorado State University, Ft. Collins, CO. April 15, 2016.

“Ethics and Ethnography: Power to the People” Panel Discussant, Ethnographic Turn Conference, University of Colorado-Boulder, October 1, 2016.

“Thinking Through Difference: From Theory to Practice” Workshop Panelist (with Dr. Bianca Williams), University of Colorado-Boulder, Anthropology Department, February 26, 2016.

“Paper Promises: Troubled Temporalities and Uncertain Citizens,” Panel Discussant, The Fantastic and the Banal Conference, University of Colorado-Boulder, September 27, 2013.

“My Path to the Professoriate (and Beyond),” Faculty Network Colloquium Talk, Miramontes Arts and Sciences Program (MASP), University of Colorado-Boulder. April 10, 2013.

“Shades of Belonging in Cuban Tourism,” Research Network on Racial and Ethnic Inequality/Sociology Department Race Network. Duke University, Durham, NC. March 25, 2013.

“Talk about Teaching,” Caribbean Initiative Teaching Symposium. Beloit College, Beloit, WI. March 22, 2013.

“Shades of Belonging in Cuban Tourism,” Caribbean Initiative Lecture Series. Beloit College, Beloit, WI. March 21, 2013.

Career Service (last 10 years)

Clemson University

Director, Global Black Studies AY 2021 – present

Member, Diversity and Inclusion Council, AY21 – present

Ex-Officio Member, Commission on the Black Experience, AY21 – present

- Co-organizer: Black and Latinx Faculty Writing Retreat Spring 2023 - present

Chair, Interdisciplinary Studies Ad-hoc Working Group, Dec. 2022–May 2023

Joint-hire Search Committee Member, English, Diversity Advocate, 2022
Joint-hire Search Committee Member, History, Diversity Advocate, 2022
Joint-hire Search Committee Member, Performing Arts, Diversity Advocate, 2022

Women and Gender Studies, University of Colorado Boulder

Department Chair (AY 2020 – 2021)

Department of Anthropology, University of Colorado Boulder

Executive Committee (Fall 2019 – Spring 2020)
Space Committee (Fall 2019 – Spring 2020)
Salary Committee (Fall 2016 – Spring 2019)
Climate Committee (Fall 2017 – Fall 2018)
Diversity Committee (Spring 2016)
Inclusive Excellence Committee (Spring 2016)
Curriculum Committee (Fall 2012 – Fall 2015; Fall 2018 – Spring 2019)
Departmental Program Review Committee (Fall 2012)

College of Arts & Sciences, University of Colorado Boulder

Chair, Department of Women and Gender Studies (Summer 2020 – present)
Eaton Travel Sabbaticals Committee (Fall 2015 – Spring 2017)
Internal Review Committee/Ethnic Studies Department (Fall 2012 – Spring 2013)

University of Colorado

Faculty Council Committee for Racial and Ethnic Equity, 2019–2020
Chancellor’s International Education & Research Review Committee, 2018–2020

Scholarly and Professional Societies

Caribbean Studies Association, Executive Committee Member, 2022-2023
Association of Black Anthropologists Planning Committee Representative,
Ethnographic Futures, Joint Spring Conference (with the American Ethnological
Society and Association of Latina and Latino Anthropologists), St. Louis,
Missouri, March 2019
American Anthropological Association Site Planning Committee, Denver,
Colorado, November 2016

Community and Civic Engagement

“Sankofa: From Black History to Black Futures.” Pleasant Hill Baptist Church
Black History Celebration. Belton, SC. February 2023.

“To Be Young, Gifted, and Black.” T.L. Hanna High School Black Student Union
Induction Ceremony. Anderson, SC. January 2023.

Faculty Advisor, Clemson University, National Association for the Advancement
of Colored People (NAACP). Spring 2022 – present.

Advisory Board Member, “This is (Not) Who We Are” (documentary film).
Landlocked films. July 2020 – July 2021.

Faculty interview, “Women’s Basketball 1-on-1 2020 Virtual Event,” November
12, 2020; <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sV3KsqfXpso&feature=youtu.be>
(see 1:22:43-1:27:45).

Faculty Panelist: “Transitioning to CU-Boulder: An Online Panel For Black High
School Students Interested in Attending CU-Boulder on Navigating the Academy
While Black.” BLACC (Building Leadership Amongst Communities of Color).
October 6, 2020.

“Trump Reverses Obama’s Cuba Policy.” KGNU Morning Magazine news radio
interview. June 2019.

“Local Impacts of New Restrictions on Cuba Travel.” Noticiero Telemundo
Denver Interview. June 2019.

Additional Service

Board of Trustees: University Press of Colorado/Utah State University Press
(2019–2021)

National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) Awards for Faculty Review
Panel, Washington, DC. July 2019.

Grant Reviewer: Mellon/American Council of Learned Societies Dissertation
Completion Fellowship (January 2018, January 2023, forthcoming January 2024).
Social Science Research Council (January 2013)

Manuscript Reviewer: Rutgers University Press (book: July 2018), American
Anthropologist (article: November 2013, and March 2018), Cultural
Anthropology (article: September 2018), American Ethnologist (article:
December 2012 and December 2013), Journal of Latin American and Caribbean
Anthropology (June 2016), Anthropology Quarterly (May 2019), SUNY OER
Services (July 2019)

Languages

Spanish (fluent)
French (reading comprehension)
Portuguese (reading comprehension)

Professional Associations

American Anthropological Association
American Ethnological Society

Association of Black Anthropologists
Caribbean Studies Association, Executive Council Member (AY22–23)
Latin American Studies Association
Society for Cultural Anthropologists
Society for Latin American and Caribbean Anthropology