

CURRICULUM VITAE

Barbara Ransby

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EDUCATION

- 1996 Ph.D., University of Michigan, Department of History, Ann Arbor, Michigan.
- 1987 M.A., University of Michigan, Department of History, Ann Arbor, Michigan
- 1984 B.A. with Honors in History, Columbia University, New York, New York.

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

- 2011 - 2012 Interim Vice Provost for Planning and Programs, University of Illinois at Chicago
- 2009 Professor, Departments of African American Studies, Gender and Women's Studies, and History, University of Illinois at Chicago
- 2008 – present Director (Department Chairperson), Gender and Women's Studies, University of Illinois at Chicago
- 2002 – 2009 Associate Professor, Departments of African American Studies and History, University of Illinois at Chicago
- 1996 – 2002 Assistant Professor, Departments of African American Studies and History, University of Illinois at Chicago
- 1995 – 1996 Director of the Center for African American Research and Assistant Professor of History, DePaul University, Chicago, IL
- 1992 – 1995 Instructor, Department of History, DePaul University, Chicago, IL
- 1989 – 1990 Instructor, Center for Afro-American and African Studies, University of Michigan
- 1986 – 1988 Instructor, Women's Studies, Women's Studies Program, University of Michigan.

BOOK PUBLICATIONS

Ella Baker and the Black Freedom Movement: A Radical Democratic Vision (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2003)

Eslanda: The Large and Unconventional Life of Mrs. Paul Robeson (Yale University Press, 2012)

BOOK PRIZES AND RECOGNITIONS

for Ella Baker and the Black Freedom Movement: A Radical Democratic Vision

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| Spring, 2005 | Book selected for “One Book, One University” at Roosevelt University, Chicago, IL |
| June, 2004 | Honorable Mention, First Book Prize, Berkshire Conference of Women Historians |
| 2004 | Lillian Smith Book Award, Southern Regional Council |
| March, 2004 | Co-winner, The Liberty – Legacy Foundation Award for the best book in Civil Rights History from The Organization of American Historians |
| March, 2004 | Winner, The James A. Rawley Prize for the best book dealing with the history of race relations in the United States from The Organization of American Historians |
| February, 2004 | Honor Book, The American Library Association, Black Caucus |
| January, 2004 | Winner, The Joan Kelly Memorial Prize for the best book in women’s history or feminist theory from The American Historical Association |
| December, 2003 | The Gustavus Myers Award for one of the best books addressing human rights issues from The Gustavus Myers Center for the Study of Bigotry and Human Rights at Simmons College |
| October, 2003 | The Leticia Woods Brown Prize for the best book in African American Women’s History awarded by The Association of Black Women Historians |

SELECT ARTICLES AND ESSAYS

"Dancing on the Edges of History But Never Dancing Alone" in Telling Histories, Black Women Historians in the Ivory Tower, Deborah Gray White, ed. (University of North Carolina Press, 2008)

"The Deadly Discourse on Black Poverty and its Impact on Black Women in New Orleans in the Wake of Hurricane Katrina," DuBois Review: Social Science Research on Race, Volume 3, no. 1, Spring 2006

Foreword to War on the Family: Mothers in Prison and the Families They Leave Behind by Renny Golden (New York: Routledge, 2005)

“Dreamin’ of Black Freedom and Fighting for Social Justice,” The DuBois Review (Harvard University W.E.B. DuBois Center), Spring, 2005 issue.

Foreword to Deep in Our Hearts: Nine White Women in the Freedom Movement by Constance Curry, et al. (Athens, Georgia: University of Georgia Press, 2000)

“Black Feminism at 21: Reflections on the Evolution of Black Feminist Politics in the 1980’s and 90’s,” in Signs: Journal of Women in Culture and Society, Spring, 2000 Special Millennium Issue, vol. 25, no.4.

“U.S.: The Black Poor and the Politics of Expendability,” in Race and Class, October-December, 1996, vol. 38, no. 2 (London: Institute for Race Relations)

“Reflections on the Fiftieth Anniversary Commemoration of the Pan-African Conference,” in Issue: A Journal of Opinion, published by the African Studies Association, 1996, vol. XXIV/2.

“Afrocentrism, Cultural Nationalism and the Problem with Essentialist Definitions of Race, Gender and Sexuality” in Race and Reason (New York: Columbia University Institute for Research in African American Studies) Autumn, 1994, vol. 1, no. 1

“Ella Jo Baker: African American Radical and Intellectual,” in The American Radical, Paul and Mari Jo Buhle and Harvey Kaye, eds. (New York, NY: Routledge, 1994)

“Black Popular Culture and the Transcendence of Patriarchal Illusions,” in Race and Class, vol. 35, July-September, 1993

“A Righteous Rage: African American Women in Defense of Ourselves and Black Women’s Response to the Hill - Thomas Hearings,” in Reflections on Anita Hill: Race, Gender and Power in the United States, Geneva Smitherman, ed. (Detroit: Wayne State University Press, forthcoming in 1994)

“Ella Josephine Baker, 1903-1986,” in Black Women in America: An Historical Encyclopedia, vol. I., Darlene Clark Hine, ed. (Brooklyn, NY: Carlson Publishing, 1993)

“The Gang Rape of Anita Hill and the Assault Upon all Women,” The Black Scholar, Spring, 1992

“Feminism in Black and White: Reflections on Anita Hill and Clarence Thomas,” New Directions for Women, March, 1992

“Students of History” in “Old Hands, Young Bloods: Student Activists of the '60's Meet Campus Organizers of the '80's”, Southern Exposure, summer, 1988, vol. XVI, no. 2

“Eslanda Goode Robeson, Pan Africanist,” in SAGE: A Scholarly Journal of Black Women, Fall, 1986, vol. III, no. 2

REPRINTED PUBLICATIONS

“Afrocentrism, Cultural Nationalism and the Problem with Essentialist Definitions of Race, Gender and Sexuality” in Dispatches from the Ebony Tower: Intellectuals Confront the African American Experience (NY: Columbia University Press, 2000)

"Fear of a Black Feminist Planet," in Civil Rights Since 1787: A Reader on the Black Struggle edited by Jonathan Birnbaum and Clarence Taylor (NY: New York University Press, 2000)

“The Black Poor and the Politics of Expendability,” in A New Introduction to Poverty: The Role of Race, Power, and Politics, edited by Louis Kushnick and James Jennings, (NY: New York University Press, 1999).

“Black Popular Culture and the Transcendence of Patriarchal Illusions,” co-authored with Tracye Matthews, in Words of Fire: An Anthology of African American Feminist Thought, Beverly Guy-Sheftal, ed. (NY: New Press, 1995) Reprint.

“The Gang Rape of Anita Hill and the Assault Upon all Women of African Descent,” in Court of Appeal: The Black Community Speaks Out on the Racial and Sexual Politics of Thomas vs. Hill, edited by Robert Chrisman and Robert L. Allen, (NY: Ballantine Books, 1992)

WORKS IN PROGRESS

Root Work: Toward A Genealogy of Black Feminist Praxis – 1970s to 1990s (a collaborative oral history project)

EDITORIAL SERVICE

Editor-in-Chief, SOULS: A Critical Journal of Black Politics, Culture and Society (Taylor and Francis, since 1999), 2012 – 2017

Editorial Advisory Committee, Justice, Power and Politics Book Series, University of North Carolina Press, 2011 – present

Editorial Working Group, Race and Class, a journal of the Institute for Race Relations, London, U.K., since 1998

SELECT ACADEMIC AWARDS, GRANTS, AND FELLOWSHIPS

Catherine A. Prelinger Award from the Coordinating Council for Women in History for a non-traditional scholar whose work has made a major contribution to women in the historical profession, 2005.

Fellow, National Ford Foundation Minority Fellowship Program, 2000-2001

National Postdoctoral Fellowship for Minority Scholars, Ford Foundation, 1999-2000.

Fellow, Institute for Research on Race and Public Policy, University of Illinois at Chicago, 1998-1999.

Grant Recipient, Rockefeller Foundation Community Building Grant, “ A Community - University Dialogue Series on Democracy, Diversity and Directions for the Next Millennium,” 1998.

Michigan Minority Merit Fellowship, University of Michigan, Rackham Graduate School Fellowships, 1986-1990.

National Mellon Fellowship in the Humanities, Woodrow Wilson Fellowships Foundation, Princeton, New Jersey, 1984-1986.

SELECT PUBLIC LECTURES and KEYNOTES

“Women’s Studies Without Walls,” Plenary speaker with Lisa Yun Lee, National Women’s Studies Association Conference, November 12, 2011, Atlanta, GA.

Keynote speaker, “Black Power Beyond Borders,” a conference hosted by Carnegie Mellon University’s Center for African-American Urban Studies and the Economy, April 8, 2011, Pittsburgh, PA.

Fifth Annual African American History Month keynote, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, February 4, 2009

Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study at Harvard University, invited plenary speaker at summer workshop series on Gender and History, June 20, 2008

Williams College, Community Engagement Project, Annual Lecture, February 21, 2008

Syracuse University, Annual Martin Luther King Jr. Day Lecture and Campus Visiting Scholar, January 20, 2008

Gender and History Annual Visiting Scholar and Lecturer, University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT., April 17, 2007.

Mellon Visiting Scholar, Columbia University Teacher’s College, New York, NY, March 22-23, 2005

The 2005 Mansfield Memorial Lecture, Mansfield Institute for Social Justice, Roosevelt University, Chicago Illinois, March 10, 2005

Annual Malcolm X - Ella Baker Civil Rights Lecture, Florida International University, Miami, FL., February 11, 2005

The 2004 Adrenee Glover Freeman Memorial Lecture, Women's Studies Program, University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC. October, 2004

“‘People Who are Under the Heel Who Have to Lead’: Ella Baker and Working Class Black Leadership in the Civil Rights Movement,” African American Studies, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN., February 21, 2004.

Distinguished Lecture, “Ella Baker and Grassroots Leadership in the Black Freedom Movement,” Colby College, Waterville, ME., February 20, 2004.

“Ella Baker’s Legacy: Remembering the Black Radical Democratic Tradition,” The Center for African American Urban Studies and the Economy (CAUSE) in the Department of History at Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, PA., September 19, 2003.

“Ella Baker’s Black Feminist Praxis: The Veiled Terrain of Gender Politics,” University of Chicago, Center for Gender Studies, Chicago, IL, May 20, 2003.

Conferee and panelist, "International Women's Movements," Rockefeller Center for Research, Bellagio, Italy, April 7, 2000.

“Democracy in Practice: Ella Baker and the Social Change Movements of the 1960’s,” Duke University, Afro American Studies Department, Durham, NC, March 10, 2000.

Keynote Address, “Excavating African American Women from the Footnotes of Civil Rights Movement History,” University of Houston, African American Studies Program, October 22, 1998.

SELECT PUBLIC LECTURES and PANEL PRESENTATIONS

Panelist, Roundtable: “Forty Years Since King,” sponsored by the Labor and Working Class History Association at the Organization of American Historians Annual Meeting, March 29, 2008, New York, NY

Panelist, Balancing Work and Family in the Academic Workplace, at the American Historical Association Annual Meeting, January 6, 2007, Atlanta, GA.

"Who Tells the Tale?: Class and Gender in African American History and Memory,” University of California, Santa Cruz, Oakes College Lecture Series on Race and History, October 25, 2007

Keynote Speaker, University of Alabama Annual Conference on Race and Place, Bankhead Lecture Series, Tuscaloosa, Alabama, March 12, 2004.

“Lighting the Dark Corners of Civil Rights Movement History: Remembering Ella Baker,”
Conference on Civil Rights and Memory, Princeton University, December 12, 2003.

“Sisters in Struggle: Honoring Women Veterans of the Modern Civil Rights Movement,”
conference panelist at Sarah Lawrence College, Bronxville, New York, March 8, 2003.

“Ida B. Wells Barnet: Race Woman and Gender Rebel,” DePaul University, January 12, 2000.

Panel Commenter, “Legislatures, Courts, Activism, NGO’s, and Coalitions,” a panel at
“Politics, Rights, And Representation: Gender, Racial, And Sexual Equality in The United
Conference Organizer and Convener, "Exploring the Frontiers of Black Feminism," one day
conference held at University of Illinois at Chicago, June 9, 1999.

Panelist, "Frantz Fanon: Black Skin, White Mask, A Conversation with filmmaker Isaac Julien
and Homi Bhabha, " Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago, Illinois, April 12, 1997

“Ella Baker and the Writing of Black Feminist Biography: A Conversation Between Sisters
Living and Dead,” Berkshire Women’s History Conference, Chapel Hill, NC, June 7, 1996.

“The History of Black Resistance in the United States: The Radical Democratic Legacy,”
McGill University, Montreal, Canada, March, 1996.

Panelist, “Race and Democracy Symposium,” University of Wisconsin, Department of African
American Studies, Madison, March, 1996.

International panel on "Race and Class Struggles at the End of the 20th Century," hosted by
Institute for Race Relations, London, England, October, 1995.

Keynote Speaker, “Ella Baker’s World View and the Challenge of Radical Democracy,” State
University of New York, Binghamton, February, 1995.

“Ella Baker and the Dialect of Race and Gender in the Lives of African American Women
Activists,” Berkshire Women’s History Conference, New York, June, 1993.

“Ella Baker and Martin Luther King: The Populist and the Preacher in Comparative
Perspective,” Organization of American Historians, Anaheim, California, April, 1993.

PUBLIC HISTORY: FILM DOCUMENTARY AND MEDIA WORK

Consultant, “Anne Braden: Southern Patriot,” by Mimi Pickering and Appalshop Media
Collective, 2007 – 2008

Consultant, Documentary Film by Sharon A. LaCruise, “In the Shadow of Little Rock: The Life
of Daisy Bates” 2005

Consultant, Trillium Media, Public Radio International, “Deep in Our Hearts,” aired on Georgia Public Radio, March 19, 2004

Consultant, Roja Productions, PBS documentary, “Matters of Race,” aired October, 2003

Contributing Writer, The Progressive Media Project, opinion - editorials in Knight-Ridder Papers. Over two dozen opinion-editorial pieces have appeared in: USA Today, Philadelphia Inquirer, New York Newsday, Miami Herald, Atlanta Journal and Constitution, and The Denver Post, 1993 - present