

Department of Africology, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee  
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**ANIKA WILSON, PH.D.**  
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR

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**EDUCATION**

- 2008 Ph.D. University of Pennsylvania, Folklore and Folklife  
2004 M.A. University of Pennsylvania, Folklore and Folklife  
2000 A.B. Duke University, Sociology major

**PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

- 2013-present University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, Dept. of Africology, Associate Professor  
2008-2013 University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, Dept. of Africology, Assistant Professor  
2007-2008 University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, Dept. of Africology, Instructor

**RESEARCH AND PUBLICATIONS**

**Books**

*Folklore, Gender, and AIDS in Malawi: No Secret Under the Sun.* Palgrave Macmillan.  
Nov 2013.

**Articles**

"Of Love Potions and Witch Baskets: Domesticity, Mobility, and Occult Rumors in Malawi." *Western Folklore* 72:2 (Spring 2012): 149-173.

“Wilson, A. “Treating the Government Disease: AIDS Conspiracy Rumors, the Government of Malawi, and the Rhetoric of Accountability.” *Contemporary legend (new series)*. 2 (2012):57-84.

### **Works in Progress**

Gender Conflict and the Law: Courts, Narratives, and the Vernacularization of Human Rights in Malawi (book project)

“Vanishing Hitchhiker, Vanishing gods: Urban Legends of the Spiritual Insecurity of Development”

### **FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS, AND AWARDS**

Elli-Kongas Maranda Professional Prize from Women’s Section of the American Folklore Society, 2014

Awarded for book *Folklore, Gender and AIDS in Malawi: No Secret Under the Sun* (Palgrave Macmillan 2013)

Visiting Scholar, Africa Center, University of Pennsylvania 2014-15

UW-Milwaukee Center for 21<sup>st</sup> Century Studies Fellowship, 2012-13

Arts and Humanities Faculty Travel Grant, UW-Milwaukee, Fall 2011

UW- Milwaukee Graduate School Research Committee Award, for project entitled “Strange Bedfellows”: International human rights, customary laws, and the marital disputes of Malawian women, 2010-2011

UW System Institute on Race and Ethnicity Faculty Diversity Research Award, Spring 2009

The Kenneth Goldstein Dissertation Fieldwork Award, 2006

Center for Africana Studies Dissertation Fellowship, 2006-07

Fontaine Dissertation Fellowship, 2005-06

Foreign Language Area Studies Grant, 2004-05

Fontaine Fellowship, 3-year graduate fellowship, awarded 2002

## SELECTED CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS AND INVITED LECTURES

Invited Lecture University of Pittsburgh co-sponsored event, "Mphutsi: An AIDS Rumor in Malawi" (upcoming March 31, 2015)

"Aids is the Past: Rumors of a New STI in the Age of AIDS Normalization," African Studies Association Annual Meeting, Baltimore, Maryland, November 2013

"Come Divorce Me Because You are Divorcing Me. American Folklore Society Annual Meeting, Providence, RI ." October 2013

"Vanishing Hitchhiker, Vanishing God." People, Places and Stories: an Interdisciplinary and International conference hosted by Linnaeus University in Kalmar, Sweden, Sept. 28-30, 2011

"I Put a Spell on You: The Complicated Case of Love Medicines as AIDS Prevention." American Folklore Society Annual Meeting: Nashville, TN. Oct. 2010

" 'Funny Yet Sorrowful': Humor and pathos in tales of women 'fighting' for their lives in northern Malawi." American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting: Philadelphia, PA. Dec. 2009

"The Nightmare of AIDS from a Familiar Stranger: Emerging Supernatural Assault Traditions in Malawi." American Folklore Society Annual Meeting: Boise, ID. Oct. 2009.

" 'Come and Divorce Me, My husband': Marriage Court Transcripts." Presented at the Supporting and Retaining Diverse Faculty Conference held by the UW System Institute on Race and Ethnicity. April 16-17, 2009

"This Disease of Ours: Responsibility and Blame in Vernacular Names for AIDS in Malawi." Presenter and Panel Co-organizer. American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting: San Francisco, CA. Nov. 2008

" 'Dig in the Bush for medicine': Prophets, Authorities, and the Imperative of Accusation in Malawian Public Health Practices." African Studies Association Annual Meeting: Chicago, IL. Nov. 2008

" 'The Dog Ate Feces Because He Lacked Advice': Perceptions of the Power of Advice, Counseling, and Confrontation in AIDS-era Malawi." American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting: Washington, D.C. Nov. 2007

"Some Men May Pierce the Condoms: Rumor and Gender Conflict in northern Malawi." African Studies Association Annual Meeting: San Francisco, California. Nov. 2006

“Government Medicine’ for the ‘Government Disease’: Emerging Conspiracy Theories in the Coming ARV Age in Malawi.” American Folklore Society Annual Meeting: Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Oct. 2006

“Gender Based Violence, HIV/AIDS and the Media in Malawi: Four Functions of Media Representation.” National AIDS Commission of Malawi Annual Research Dissemination Conference: Lilongwe, Malawi. May 2006

## **COURSE INSTRUCTION AND ADVISING**

Africology 100: Black Reality: Survey of African-American Society, UW-Milwaukee (Undergraduate)

Africology 215: Black Social and Cultural Traditions, UW-Milwaukee (Undergraduate)

Africology 232: Survey of African Societies and Culture (Undergraduate)

Africology 351: Sex, Marriage, and Healthcare in the Afroworld: Focus on AIDS in sub-Saharan Africa, UW-Milwaukee (Undergraduate)

Africology 450: Cultural Transmissions: Black Africa, Black America, UW-Milwaukee (Undergraduate/Graduate)

Africology 837: Memory and Tradition: Exploring Transmission of memory through concepts of the body, space, and time, UW-Milwaukee (Graduate)

Africology 852: Folklore in the African World (Graduate)

## **Student Advising**

Dissertation committee member for:

Kate Olson, UW-Milwaukee English Department, PhD. Earned 2014.  
Creative Dissertation title: Talent Thief

Dissertation committee member for:

Derrick Harriell, UW-Milwaukee English Department, PhD earned 2012.  
Creative dissertation title: “Ropes.” (A collection of poems that highlight the lives of African American boxing greats Jack Johnson, Joe Louis, Joe Frazier, and Mike Tyson)

## **COMMITTEE AND SERVICE WORK**

Graduate Affairs Coordinator, Department of Africology, UW-Milwaukee (2013-present)

Search Committee Chair for 2 Visiting Professorships for the Department of Africology (Summer 2014)

Study Abroad Committee, Department of Africology, UW-Milwaukee (2013-present)

Faculty Senate, UW-Milwaukee, 2011-2013

Academic Policy Committee (2010-2013),  
2012-13 committee chair

Department of Africology Graduate Affairs Committee Fall 2010-present

Lloyd Augustus Barbee Essay Competition Committee, 2007-2008

New Ph.D. Planning Committee for the UWM Department of Africology, 2008-2010

Black History and Liberation Month Committee (Chair), 2008-2010

Department of Africology Website Committee, 2008-2013

APCC Ten-Year-Review Committee for UWM Department of Africology 2007-2008

Boren Scholarship Regional Review Panel—Africa (National Security Education Program), 2011-2013

## **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

Science, Technology, Medicine and Society in the Center for 21<sup>st</sup> Century Studies, UW-Milwaukee

Global Health Certificate working group. Interdisciplinary advisory committee for creating a certificate in Global Health, chaired by Anne Banda, PhD, 2011-2012

## **PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS**

American Folklore Society  
African Studies Association  
African Studies Association Women's Caucus  
American Association of University Women