

LAE'L HUGHES-WATKINS

lhugheswatkins@protonmail.com

laelhugheswatkins.info

EDUCATION:

Kent State University, Kent, OH

M.S Library Information Science, 2010

Youngstown State University, Youngstown, OH

M.A, English, 2008

Thesis: Fay M. Jackson: The Sociopolitical Narrative of a Pioneering African American Female Journalist

Graduate Certifications Professional Writing and Editing/Teaching of Writing

B.A Journalism and Political Science, 2004

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:

University of Maryland, College Park

University Archivist, 1/22/19-present

- Responsible for establishing Student Life Records program in partnership with the Office of Student Life, the Office of Sororities and Fraternities, and Undocumented Student Program, and other key stakeholders
- Maintains a collaborative relationship with the Office of General Counsel and the University's Electronic Records Archivist to review and update Records Retention schedule and assist in providing campus-wide awareness and compliance
- Develops cooperative relationship with Access/Instruction unit to create workflows for the digitization of University Archives records
- Facilitates instruction with undergraduate and graduate-level courses across multiple disciplines
- Supervise contractual and volunteer staff
- Manage Project STAND forums
 - AUC Woodruff Library, February 21, 2019
 - University Rhode Island, June 3, 2019
 - Chicago State University, September 19, 2019
 - Arizona State University, February 27-28, 2020
- Collaborate with University Advancement to secure funding for endowments and digitization projects

- Builds relationships with community stakeholders and campus wide partners to implement the goals and objectives of University Libraries

Kent State University, Kent, Ohio

University Archivist, Assistant Professor 2013- 1/2019

- Administered country's largest collection on the history of the Kent State Shootings of May 4, 1970
- Acquired, digitized and administered one of the most significant photograph collections on African American Student Life at Kent State University, the Lafayette Tolliver collection
- Assisted in securing a \$50,000 gift for supporting the acquisition, processing, and digitization of records pertaining to the Black Campus Movement
- Launched Project STAND, the largest U.S consortium of colleges and universities highlighting and advocating for the usage of primary resources on social justice movements in marginalized student populations
- Awarded a \$92,000 IMLS National Leadership grant for Project STAND to host four forums
- Embedded in multiple courses across disciplines including Journalism, History, English, and Art
- Managed multiple complex donor relationships, donor acquisitions, outreach, engagement, university-wide transfers, digital preservation, curation and exhibits
- Facilitated summer-long programming in collaboration with secondary and post-secondary institutions focusing on utilizing primary resources

Western Reserve Historical Society, Cleveland, Ohio

Archivist for African American Collections, February-July 2018

- Assisted in planning of exhibitions, public programs, special events, and educational programs
- Deaccessioned 30 linear feet of George L. Forbes collection
- Initiated second appraisal of George L Forbes records, consisting of 100 linear feet of documents, memorabilia and artifacts
- Assisted in creating processing plans

Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio

Facilitator, Young Scholars Program, May 2013-July 2013

- Assisted in the development of the English curriculum for Youngstown City School students participating in the Ohio State University Young Scholars Program. Served as the facilitator for the English component

Eastern Gateway Community College, Youngstown, Ohio

Student Support Services, Librarian May 2011-December 2012

- Facilitated workshops for developmental education, English composition and History courses
- Met with instructors and faculty to provide pedagogical support and discuss desired learning outcomes

Coordinator Student Learning Center, August 2011-December 2012

- Recruited, interviewed, trained, hired, and monitored peer/professional tutors and created policies and procedures for developmental course lab hours
- Established information awareness campaigns for tutoring services and worked with community partners to create sustainable incentives to increase retention rates
- Provided monthly analytics
- Developed and implemented policies and procedures for Disability Services, facilitated needs for students with IEPs (Individualized Education),
- Proctored the Compass Tests (entrance exam) and provided statistical reports to administration

Kent State University, Kent, Ohio

Special Collections and Archives, Graduate Assistant, August 2010-October 2010

- Arranged and described archival and manuscript collections using DACS standard. Created finding aids using EAD software, provided reference service for patrons on-site and off-site requests including Inter-Library Loan requests. Retrieved and filed archival materials. Engaged in the preservation and treatment of archival materials.

Practicum Co-researcher, August 2010- October 2010

Researched and processed the oral history collection of nationally known peace and labor movement activists Alice and Staughton Lynd. Researched and created source cards from the Lynd Collection and an in-depth timeline of Lynd's work in peace and labor movement. Engaged in meetings with authors, former Kent State University Archivist Stephen Paschen and former Dean of Libraries at Kent State University Dr. Mark Weber. The research assisted in the production of a biographical publication on the Lynds.

Dr. Gerald H. and Victoria C. T. Read Graduate Assistant, August 2009-May 2010

Assisted in the preparation of instructional workshops on Archival Research. Arranged and described archival and manuscript collections using DACS standard and created finding aids using EAD software. Engaged in special projects.

- Assisted in curating of Kent State University May 4 exhibit
- Transcribed oral histories for the May 4 Collection

Special Collections Graduate Student Assistant, June 2009-August 2009

Arranged and described archival and manuscript collections using DACS standard. Created finding aids using EAD software. Provided reference service for patrons on-site and off-site. Retrieved and filed archival material and engaged in the preservation and treatment of archived materials. Completed special projects

- Digitized photographs for online May 4 Collections
- Assisted in shifting of archival materials
- Transcribed and edited May 4 oral histories

INVITED TALKS AND PRESENTATIONS

"America's Family Scrapbook." Navigating the digital shift: practices and possibilities. *Discovering Collections, Discovering Communities Conference (DCDC)*. November 12-14, 2019. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i8M4MmCexCo> (Invited Keynote)

Reparative Archives: Acquisition, Advocacy, Utilization and Transformation. Mid-Atlantic Regional Archives Conference (MARAC). November 7, 2019. Workshop Facilitator

Radical Illini: Conversations on Student Activism. University of Illinois Press hosts conversations on past and present student activism in honor of our new book by Michael Metz, [Radicals in the Heartland: The 1960s Student Protest Movement at the University of Illinois](#). University of Illinois Urbana Champaign. October 4-5, 2019 (Invited Keynote)

Documenting Movements: Archivists as Social Justice Advocates. Remarks by Verne Harris, Deputy of Archive and Dialogue Nelson Mandela Foundation, Dominican University Follett Chair Library and Information Science. Chicago Collections and Black. Metropolis Research Consortium. October 30, 2018. (Invited Keynote)

Movement 68 Symposium. A panel discussion on the past 50 years of black student activism and experiences at Middle Tennessee State University, featuring alumni and students from the 1960s to the present day. Albert Gore Research Center, Middle Tennessee State University, October 23, 2018. (Invited Keynote)

"What is Project STAND?" Society of Ohio Archivists, Fall Conference. Columbus, Ohio. October 5, 2018. (Invited)

"S.A.V.E Methodology," Society of American Archivists (SAA) Annual Conference, Web Archiving Section. Co-Presenter: Trevor U. Watkins, Assistant Professor, Kent State University. Washington, D.C. August 15, 2018. (invited)

"Catalysts, Pioneers and Provocateurs: 21st Century Academic Libraries. Co-Panelists: Jenny Robb, Curator and Associate Professor The Ohio State University Billy Ireland Cartoon Library & Museum, **Krista McDonald**, Director Miami University Regionals Rentschler Library, and **Nimisha Bhat**, Technical Services Librarian Columbus College of Art & Design Packard Library. Ohio Private Academic Libraries Conference (OPAL), Columbus, Ohio. August 2-3, 2018. (invited)

"STAND: Documenting the Social Movements of Historically Marginalized Student Populations," Panelist for Archives of Change. Ethics in Web Archiving Conference. Sponsored by Rhizome, Knight Foundation, and DocNow. New York, Soho. March 21-24, 2018. (juried)

"Project STAND: A Collaborative Initiative to Highlight Acts of Social Justice through Archives." American Library Association of Ohio (ALAO) Annual Conference. Columbus, Ohio. October 27, 2017. (juried)

"Post Trauma: Archiving Black Pain in a White Space." Keynote Speaker. Decolonizing Archives. Arizona Historical Society Symposium. October 22, 2017. (invited)

"WOKE since 1960s: How Student Activism Has Shaped the Nation." 102nd Annual Meeting and Conference of the Association for the Study of African American Life and History. Panel Chair/Presenter. Presenters: Lae'l Hughes-Watkins, Dr. Elizabeth Smith Pryor (Kent State University), Jacqueline Johnson (Miami University) and Dr. Robert Luckett (Jackson State University). Cincinnati, Ohio. Sept. 27, 2017. (invited)

"Preserving the Spark: Challenges in Archiving Activist Movements." Society of American Archivists (SAA) Annual Meeting. Portland, Oregon. July 28, 2017. (juried)

"KSU through the Years in Maps and Aerial Images." GIS Day. Kent State University, Student Center. November 17, 2016. (invited)

"Activism in the Archives: How the Acquisition of a Collection Is Influencing Relationships With Diverse Populations and Stimulating Collaborative Relationships for Instructional Design." August 11, 2016. National Diversity in Libraries Conference co-sponsored by Association of Research Libraries. University of California in Los Angeles. (juried)

"Get on the BUS: A Pictorial of Black Student Protest at KSU" March 3, 2016. Kent State University, Kent. (invited)

"Kent State Shootings Oral History Project: An Overview." April 18, 2015. Ohio Local History Alliance. Warren Public Library. Warren, Ohio. (invited)

"Using Outreach in the Archives to Connect with Under-Documented Communities." August 13, 2014. Society for American Archivists Annual Meeting: Archives and Archivists of Color Roundtable. Washington, DC. (juried)

"Digitization Case Study: The May 4 Digital Archive." Presenters: Lae'l Hughes-Watkins and Cara Gilgenbach. April 12, 2014. Ohio Local History Alliance. Kent State University, Kent. (invited)

"Kent State Shootings Oral History Project." March 21, 2014. May 4 Voices Teacher Workshop. Kent State University, Kent. (invited)

"Fay M. Jackson and the Color Line: The first foreign correspondent for the Associated Negro Press in London." March 21-22, 2009. The Association for African American Historical Research and Preservation Biennial Black History Conference. Seattle Washington University, Washington. (invited)

"Fay M. Jackson and the Re-Contextualization of Black Entertainers through Cinematic Representations in the Early 20th Century." March 18-22, 2008. Popular Culture Association Conference. San Francisco, California. (juried)

"Fay M. Jackson and Flash Magazine: The Contributions of a Black Pioneering Journalist to the New Negro Movement." March 27-29, 2008. Harlem Renaissance Revisited Conference. University of Connecticut. Storrs, Connecticut. (juried)

"Stories of Collecting Pieces and Lives." December 4, 2007. Ohio Writing Institute Fall Conference. Youngstown State University. Youngstown, Ohio. (invited)

EXHIBITS:

"BUS at 50." Kent State University. Department of Pan African Studies, Kent State University. Curated by Lae'l Hughes Watkins and Kabir Syed, Associate Professor of Department of Pan African Studies and Curator of Uumbaji Gallery.

"Kent State Shootings: Through the Lens of Two Photographers." Kent State University Department of Special Collections and Archives. Curated by: Lae'l Hughes-Watkins.

2016-2020

"Get on the BUS: A Pictorial of Black Student Protest at KSU." Kent State University Department of Special Collections and Archives. Curated by: Lae'l Hughes-Watkins. 2016

"Coming of Age at Kent, 1967-71: A pictorial of black student life." Kent State University's Department of Pan African Studies, Uumbaji Gallery. Curated by: Lae'l Hughes-Watkins. 2014

- Generated press coverage by Akron Beacon Journal <http://bit.ly/2t7yCTo>
- Daily Kent Stater <http://bit.ly/2tHPRg1>
- <https://www.kent.edu/magazine/news/flashback>

"Kent State Shootings: Through the Media's Lens." Curated by: Lae'l Hughes-Watkins and Elizabeth Campion, Graduate Assistant. 2014

SCHOLARLY PUBLICATIONS:

Peer Reviewed

Gustavson, Andi, Analú María López, Hughes-Watkins, Lae'l and Elizabeth Smith Pryor. Ethically Teaching Histories of Violence, Racism, and Oppression. Book Chapter. Teaching Undergraduates with Archives. Michigan State University Press. (upcoming 2019)

Hughes-Watkins, Trevor Watkins et. al. Cosmology of Artificial Intelligence. IFLA WLIC. Poster. Athens, Greece. August 24-30, 2019. (upcoming) juried.

Hughes-Watkins, Lae'l. "Moving Toward a Reparative Archive: A Roadmap for a Holistic Approach to Disrupting Homogenous Histories in Academic Repositories and Creating Inclusive Spaces for Marginalized Voices." Journal Contemporary Archival Studies. Vol. 5, Article 6. Available at: <https://elischolar.library.yale.edu/jcas/vol5/iss1/6> (2018): 1-19.

Hughes-Watkins, Lae'l. "Between Two Worlds: A Look at the Impact of the Black Campus Movement on the Antiwar Era of 1968-1970 at Kent State University." Ohio History Journal. 124:1 (2017): 41-64.

Bonnie James Shaker and Angela Gianoglio Pettitt and Lae'l Hughes-Watkins. "Recovering Kate Chopin's "Her First Party": Media, Mediation, Message." American Periodicals: A Journal of History & Criticism 27, 1 (2017): 21-24.

"Campus Connections: The Black Campus Movement Project at Kent State University." June 23, 2016. Rare Books and Manuscripts Section Conference (A Division of American Library Association): Opening Doors to Collaboration, Outreach and Diversity. Poster. Coral Gables, Florida. (juried)

Hughes-Watkins, Lae'l. "Filling in the Gaps: Using Outreach Efforts to Acquire Documentation on the Black Campus Movement, 1965-1972." *Archival Issues*. 36:1 (2014): 28-42

Hughes-Watkins, Lae'l. "Fay M. Jackson and the Color Line: The First African American Foreign Correspondent for the Associated Negro Press." *The Journal Pan African Studies*. 3:2 (2009): 119-134.

Non-Peer Reviewed

Hughes-Watkins, Lae'l and Ken Grossi. "Take a STAND: Documenting Student Activism," *Archival Outlook*. (September/October 2018).

Hughes-Watkins, Lae'l. "Project STAND: Documenting Student Activism from the Margins" *The Academic Archivist Blog* (Society American Archivists). (April 2018).

Hughes-Watkins, Lae'l. "Are You Pinning: Why History Organizations Should Consider Pinterest." *The Local Historian*. (July/August 2015)

SELECT LIBRARY INSTRUCTION and GUEST LECTURES

Seminar in the Academic Library," University Maryland, iSchool, 2019

"Civil Rights and Black Power," History Department, Kent State University, 2016, 2018.

"Freedom of Speech," Communications, Kent State University, 2013-2017.

"Geography Graduate Seminar," Geography Department, Kent State University, 2017.

"Rhetoric and Composition Graduate Course," English Department, Kent State University, 2017.

PROJECTS:

Project STAND (Founder), 2016-present

Project STAND is a radical grassroots archival consortia project between colleges and universities around the country; to create a centralized digital space highlighting analog and digital collections emphasizing student activism in marginalized communities. Project STAND aims to foster ethical documentation of contemporary and past social justice movements in underdocumented student populations. STAND also advocates for collections by collaborating with educators to provide pedagogical support, create digital resources, hosts workshops, and forums for information professionals, academics, technologists, humanists, etc. interested in building communities with student organizers and their allies, leading to sustainable relationships, and inclusive physical and digital spaces of accountability, diversity, and equity. <https://standarchives.wordpress.com/>

Press: "Project STAND Highlights Student Activism Archives," [Library Journal](#), May 24, 2018.

COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT

Student Life Collections Initiative, 2019-present

A multi-partner effort with University Libraries Department of Special Collections and University Archives, Office of Student Activities, and the Office of Fraternities and Sororities to build a Student Life Collections program at the University of Maryland documenting the contributions of student organizers and their 900+ organizations.

Black Campus Movement Collection Development Initiative, 2013-2018

Established a collection development initiative to document black student activism at Kent State University for the Department of Special Collections and Archives. Facilitated 15 oral histories, the acquisition of multiple collections and implemented digitization of nearly 1,000 images.

SERVICE

UNIVERSITY SERVICE:

University of Maryland

University of Maryland, Search Committee for Preservation Librarian (2019-present)

Kent State University

Libraries Committee NTT Faculty (2015, 2017)

May 4 50th Anniversary Committee (2016-2018)

President's Initiative Deeds: Sense of Belonging Committee (2017-2018)

CAC Committee (2016-2017)

Search Committee, Digital Project Archivist (2016)

Diversity Committee, Co-chair (2016)

Diversity Committee (2014-2015)

NATIONAL SERVICE:

Archives Leadership Institute, Advisory Board. 2019-2021

Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) Grant Reviewer, National Leadership Grant (2018-2019)

Information Professionals for Association for the Study of African American Life and History (IP ASALH) (2017-Present)

Society American Archivists (SAA)

Chair, Nominating Committee (2018-present)

Appointments Committee (2017-18)

College and University Steering Committee (2018-20)

Diversifying the Archival Record Case Study, Diversity Committee, (2014-16)

Archives and Archivists of Color Roundtable Nominating Task Force, (2014-15)

Mid-Western Archives Conference: Nominating Committee (2016-2017)

REVIEWER:

Institute Museum Library Services, Grant Reviewer, 2018-2019
The Journal of Contemporary Archival Science (blind reviewer), 2017-present
Ohio History Journal (blind reviewer), 2016-2018
Ohio History Connection Fund (grants), 2015-2016, 2018

COMMUNITY SERVICE:

Lakeland Community Heritage Project, 2019-present
Ohio Local History Alliance, Board Member (2014-2015, 2017-2018)

AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS:

Society of American Archivists (SAA) Council Resolution Award for Project STAND (2019).
<https://www2.archivists.org/council/awards/2019/Project-STAND>

Library Journal's MOVERS AND SHAKERS (2019)
<https://www.libraryjournal.com/?page=movers-and-shakers-2019>

ARL LCDP Fellowship (2018-2019)
The ARL Leadership & Career Development Program (LCDP) is a yearlong program to prepare mid-career librarians from historically underrepresented racial and ethnic groups to take on leadership roles in their careers and in the profession at large.

Society Ohio Archivists Merit Award, 2018
The Society of Ohio Archivists Merit Award is given to individuals or organizations that have by excellence in deeds, actions, or initiatives improved the state of archives in Ohio.

GRANT AWARDS:

Project STAND Symposia: Documenting Student Activism of Marginalized Communities Across Academic Institutions. Principal Investigators: Lae'l Hughes-Watkins, Tamar Chute, Ohio State University, Helen Conger Case western University, Ellen Swain, University Illinois. Project awarded: \$92,096 by the National Leadership Grants for Libraries Program. 2018-2020.

California Rare Books School Scholarship. Awarded: \$1200

Providing Access to the Kent State Shootings Audio Archive. Principal Investigators: Cara Gilgenbach, Virginia Dressler, Lae'l Hughes-Watkins. Project awarded: \$2,000 by the Ohio Archives Grant, funded by the National Historical Publications and Records Commission, an arm of the National Archives and Records Administration through their State and National Archival Partnership Grants program. 2015.

MEMBERSHIP AND AFFILIATIONS:

Maryland Institute Technology and Humanities
American Library Association of Ohio (ALAO)
Society of American Archivists (SAA)
Archives and Archivists of Color Roundtable
Association for the Study of African American Life and History (ASALH)

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

California Rare Books School (Calrbs). "Developing & Administering Collections of African American Resources," UCLA, Los Angeles, Ca., August 7-11, 2017.

Accessioning and Ingest of Electronic Record. Society American Archivists. Washington, D.C. April, 2017.

Digital Curation Course. Kent State University. Spring 2017.

Project Management 101: Planning Your Project. OCLC Webinar. February 5 and 19, 2015.

Oral History, Archives, and Innovation. Midwest Archives Conference Fall Symposim. University of Illinois. Urbana Champaign, Illinois. September 12-13, 2014.

Schomburg Center State of Black Research Collections Conference. Schomburg Center. Harlem, NY. October 30-31, 2014.

Digital Archives and Libraries. Society American Archivists. Syracuse University Libraries. Syracuse, NY. March 10, 2014.

Digital Curation: Creating an Environment for Success. Society American Archivists. Syracuse University Libraries. Syracuse, NY. March 11, 2014.