

BRANDI BLESSETT, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor

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EDUCATION

- 8/2006 – 12/2011 **Ph.D. of Urban Policy.** Old Dominion University, Norfolk, VA.
Dissertation title: “Dispersion or Re-segregation: A Spatial and Temporal Analysis of Public Policies and their Impact on Urban African American Mobility”
- 8/2004 – 12/2005 **Masters of Educational Leadership.** Wayne State University, Detroit, MI.
- 6/1998 – 5/2003 **Bachelor of Science.** University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 8/2011 – Present **Assistant Professor**
University of Central Florida
- 8/2010 – 8/2011 **Instructor**
University of Central Florida
- 8/2006 – 8/2010 **Graduate Research Assistant**
Old Dominion University, Norfolk, VA
- 8/2007 – 7/2010 **Research Consultant**
Old Dominion University Community Development Corporation,
Norfolk, VA
- 8/2004 – 8/2006 **Health Teacher**
Highland Park Community High School, Highland Park, MI
- 8/2003 – 8/2004 **Physical Education and Health Teacher**
Academy for Business and Technology, Dearborn Heights, MI

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

- Alkadry, M.G., Bhandari, R., Wilson, C.S., & Blessett, B. (2011). Racial Disparities in Stroke Awareness: African Americans and Caucasians. *Journal of Health and Human Services Administration*, 33(4).

- Alkadry, M.G. & **Blessett, B.** (2010). Aloofness or Dirty Hands: Administrative Culpability in the Making of the 2nd Ghetto. *Administrative Theory and Praxis*, 32(4), 552-576.

BOOK CHAPTERS

- **Blessett, B.** (2012). Private Prisons as a Response to the “Second Ghetto.” In Byron E. Price and John C. Morris (Eds.), *Prison Privatization: The Many Facets of a Controversial Industry*. Santa Barbara: Praeger/Greenwood Publishers.
- **Blessett, B.** (2012). Prisons for Profit: The Political and Economic Implications of Private Prisons. In Byron E. Price and John C. Morris (Eds.), *Prison Privatization: The Many Facets of a Controversial Industry*. Santa Barbara: Praeger/Greenwood Publishers.

GRANT ACTIVITY

- **Submitted** College of Health and Public Affairs (COHPA) In-House Grant ‘Clients and Organizations: Assessing Juvenile Prevention Services, October 2011.
- **Principal Investigator** for Florida Department of Health, a \$15,000 grant was awarded to promote arthritis awareness in Orlando through the “2011 English Arthritis Health Communication Campaign.”
- **Grant writer** in 2008 for ODU CDC, funding obtained from the Wachovia Foundation in the amount of \$20,000 was used to support organizational programming and community service activities.
- **Grant writer** in 2007 for ODU CDC, \$25,000 was obtained from the Bank of American Neighborhood Excellence Grant was used to initiate community activities: Workforce Housing and the annual Girls Conference.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- **Blessett, B.** (2011). Diversity and Cultural Competence: Creating an Environmental of Collective Inclusion. Presented at the Faculty Center for Teaching and Learning (FTLC) Winter Development Conference. Orlando, FL.
- **Blessett, B.** (2011). Does Context Really Matter? Economic Development Ends, Black Displacement Means. Presented at the National Association of Schools of Public Affairs and Administration. Kansas City, MO.

- Joyner, N.F., **Blessett, B.**, & Alkadry, M.G. (June 2011). Mission Possible: Moving Beyond Colorblind Civility to Courageous and Meaningful Dialogues About Race. Presented at the Social Equity and Leadership Conference. Binghamton, NY.
- **Blessett, B.**, Mengistu, B., & Alkadry, M.G. (June 2011). Making Urban Issues Salient for Public Administration Education. Presented at the Social Equity and Leadership Conference. Binghamton, NY.
- **Blessett, B.** (May 2011). From Inner City to the Academy: My Journey, My Experience. Presented at the Public Administration Theory Network National Conference. Norfolk, VA.
- **Blessett, B.** (April 2011). Dispersion or Re-segregation: A Spatial and Temporal Analysis of Public Policies and their Impact on Urban African American Mobility. Presented at the Public Administration Research Colloquium. Orlando, FL.
- **Blessett, B.**, Chapman, T., & Alkadry, M.G. (June 2010). ‘Naturally Negro? Public Housing Site Selection and the Re-segregation of Baltimore. Presented at the Social Equity Leadership Conference. Baltimore, MD.
- Alkadry, M.G. & **Blessett, B.** (May 2010). Relevance and Moral Silence: Does the Rubber Often Miss the Road. Presented at the Public Administration Theory Network National Conference. Omaha, NE.
- **Blessett, B.** & Alkadry, M.G. (April 2010). Administrative Culpability in the Making of the Second Ghetto. Presented at the American Society of Public Administration (ASPA) National Conference. San Jose, CA.
- **Blessett, B.** & Alkadry, M.G. (March 2010). Misappropriated Power: An Analysis of Administrative Discretion and its Impact on African American Communities. Presented at the Hampton Roads Chapter of the American Society of Public Administration. Virginia Beach, VA.
- **Blessett, B.** (April 2009). Making the Second Ghetto: A Case Study on Overtown. Presented at the Hampton Roads Chapter of the American Society of Public Administration Conference. Norfolk, VA.
- **Blessett, B.** & Alkadry, M.G. (February 2009). Race and Responsibility: Administrative Involvement in the Demise of Overtown. Presented at the Conference of Minority Public Administrators National Conference (COMPA). Las Vegas, NV.
- **Blessett, B.** (April 2008). Assessing Community Needs to Coordinate Revitalization Initiatives. April 2008. Presented at the Old Dominion University Research Exposition. Norfolk, VA.

- **Blessett, B.** (February 2008). Assessing Community Needs to Coordinate Revitalization Initiatives. Presented at the Virginia Council of Graduate Schools. Richmond, VA.
- Plichta, S.B., Jackson, J., **Blessett, B.**, & Myers, R. (2007). Social Connectedness and Intimate Partner Violence. Presented at the American Public Health Association and Academy Health Conference. Washington D.C., November 2007.

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES

- Invited to participate in the South African NGO Coalition to engage with diverse constituent groups about human capacity building. The conference sponsored a variety of workshops to strengthen international, domestic, and cross-sectorial relationships in Cape Town, South Africa.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Face-to-Face	PAD 4153 – Planning and Improvement in Public Organizations PAD 4414 – Public Personnel Administration (x2) PAD 4325 – Program Evaluation
Online	PAD 4104 – Administrative Theory (x2) PAD 4148 – Volunteer Management PAD 4414 – Public Personnel Administration (x2) PAD 6035 – Public Administration in the Policy Process (Graduate)

INVITED GUEST LECTURES

October 2011	Invited Speaker, Florida International University PAD 6053 Political, Social & Economic Context of Public Administration Topic: Prisons and Race
April 2010	Guest Lecturer, Old Dominion University PADM 746 – Capstone Seminar Topic: Public Administration and Race
March 2010	Guest Lecturer, Old Dominion University PADM 652 – Administrative Theory II Topic: Public Personnel Management

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- COHPA Research Fellows, 2011-2012

- School of Public Administration Research Mentor Meetings, 2011-2012
- School of Public Administration Teaching Mentor Meetings, 2011-2012
- Faculty Center for Teaching and Learning (FTLC) Learning Communities, 2011-2012
- IDL 6543 – Online Course Development, 2011-2012
- COHPA Faculty Summer Research Institute, 2011

SERVICE (2007-PRESENT)

- Conference Planning Committee - 2013 International Conference on Public Management and Development Administration: Winhoek, Namibia.
- Research Consultant - Federation of Congregations United to Serve (FOCUS): Orlando, FL.
- Research Consultant - Old Dominion University Community Development Corporation: Norfolk, VA.
- Volunteer - Public Administration & Urban Policy Ph.D. Student Association: Norfolk, VA.
 - Literacy Scrabble and Habitat for Humanity
- Research Consultant - Family Systems II and New Life Programs: Norfolk, VA.
- Volunteer - ASPA National Conference: Dallas, TX.
- Tutor - Wildcat Tutoring Program: Norfolk, VA.

AWARDS AND HONORS

- Ph.D. Student of the Year Award presented by the Department of Urban Studies and Public Administration, April 2010.
- American Society of Public Administration (ASPA) Founder's Forum Fellowship Recipient, February 2010.
- Section on Women in Public Administration (SWPA) Scholarship Recipient, December 2009.
- University Fellowship, Old Dominion University, August 2009.
- Johnnie L. Cochrane, Jr./MWH Scholarship from the National Forum of Black Public Administrators (NFBPA), April 2009.
- Wolfgang Pindur Scholarship, May 2008.
- Honorable Mention at the Old Dominion University Research Exposition, April 2008.
- Hampton Roads Chapter of the Conference of Minority Public Administrators Scholarship (COMPA), Spring 2007.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

- American Society of Public Administration (ASPA)
- Conference of Minority Public Administrators (COMPA)
- National Forum for Black Public Administrators (NFBPA)
- Public Administration Theory Network (PATNet)