

Naomi Mae W., PhD

Education Building
1000 Bascom Mall
Madison, WI 53706

EDUCATION

University of Michigan
PhD, Educational Foundations and Policy
Dissertation: “YOU DREAM: Youth Organizers Unifying Detroit and Reclaiming Education by Any Means”
Committee: Camille Wilson (chair), Bianca Baldrige, Jacqueline Mattis, Carla O’Connor, Enid Rosario-Ramos
Ann Arbor, MI
August 2021

New York University, Steinhardt School of Culture, Education and Human Development
M.A., Educational Leadership, Politics and Advocacy
New York, NY
January 2015

University of California, Berkeley
B.A., African American Studies
Minor, Education
Thesis: “Pass the Torch: Community Engagement and its Disconnection in the African American Studies Department at UC Berkeley”
Berkeley, CA
August 2013

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Incoming Assistant Professor, Department of Educational Policy Studies
University of Wisconsin-Madison
Madison, WI
August 2024

Anna Julia Cooper Postdoctoral Fellow, Department of Educational Policy Studies
University of Wisconsin-Madison
January 2024 – August 2024

The Spencer Foundation
Associate Program Officer & Project Manager
Chicago, IL
July 2022 – January 2024

The Spencer Foundation
Postdoctoral Fellow
Chicago, IL
July 2021– July 2022

FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS AND AWARDS

Fellowships

Ford Foundation Dissertation Fellowship	2020
UM Poverty Solutions Graduate Student Research Assistant Fellowship	2020
Gates Millennium Scholarship	2009–2018
UM William Davidson Institute Fellowship – Kasoa, Ghana	2016

Grants

UM Rackham Public Scholarship Grant	2021
UM School of Education Summer Grant	2018-2020

Honors & Awards

Research Focus on Black Education (SIG-AERA) Travel Award	2019
Bobbe and Jon Bridge Award	2018
UM Students of Color at Rackham Scholar Activist Award	2018
UM Rackham Summer Award	2017
UM School of Education Diversity Inclusion Justice and Equity Award	2017
UM Students of Color at Rackham Scholar Activist Award	2017
UM Students of Color at Rackham Great Equalizer Award	2017
NYU MLK Trailblazer Award	2015
NYU President's Service Award	2014

PUBLICATIONS AND FORTHCOMING MANUSCRIPTS & CHAPTERS

Publications

Wilson, C. M., **Mae W., N.**, Horne, J. (2023). Ignited Fire: Learning from Black Youth Activists to Cultivate Justice-driven Educational Leadership. *International Journal of Qualitative Studies in Education*.

Under Review Manuscripts

Mae W., N. (conditional acceptance). Conceptualizing Rapport in Youth Organizing: A Synergistic Collective Critical Consciousness Framework. *International Journal of Qualitative Studies in Education*.

Nickson, D. & **Mae W., N.** (conditional acceptance). Home Embodied: Two Black Women's Exploration of Diasporic Educational Justice. In D. Carter Andrews, O. Furman, & R. Wilmot (Eds.), *Freedom Teachers, Freedom Dreamers: Black Girls' and Womxn's Embodiments of Healing and Liberation*.

Works in Progress

Mae W., N. (in progress). Repressive Schooling.

Mae W., N. (in progress). "We Don't Have to Look Like Each Other...to Fight Together": Youth Coalition-building as Synergistic Power.

Other Works

Fergus, E., **Wilson, N.**, Mercado, G., Singh, S., Eisenpress, K., Munoz, J., Cacciopo, A., Balash, M., Bell, N., & Torres, M (2014). *White Plains City School District SGEP, Advanced and Honor's Programs: Program Examination of Disproportionate Racial/Ethnic Representation*. NYU Steinhardt School of Culture, Education, and Human Development.

CONFERENCES, COMMISSIONED WORKSHOPS, & PRESENTATIONS

Peer Reviewed Presentations

Mae W., N. (2023, April) [paper presentation]. *Detroit v. Everybody: Race(d), Class(ed), and Place(d) Youth Coalition-building* [Symposium]. Urban Affairs Association (UAA). Nashville, TN.

Mae W., N. (2023, April) [paper presentation]. *We Don't Have to Look Like Each Other...to Fight Together": Youth Coalition-building as Synergistic Power* [Symposium]. American Educational Research Association (AERA). Chicago, IL.

Mae W., N., Kaler-Jones, C., McDaid, N., Reynolds, A., Serrano, U. & Turner, D.C. (2022, April). *Community Within: Activism and Community-based Research as a Way of Life* [Presidential Session]. American Educational Research Association (AERA). San Diego, CA.

Mae W., N. & Nickson, D. G. (2021, April) [paper presentation]. *Black Youth as Spatial Geographers: Navigating Education Within Metro Detroit Utilizing Perceptions of Place and Racial Storylines* [Symposium]. American Educational Research Association (AERA). Virtual.

Wilson, C.M., **Mae W., N &** Horne, J. (2021, April) [paper presentation]. *Ignited Fire: Learning from Black Youth Activists to Cultivate Justice-driven Educational Leadership* [Special Issue Symposium]. American Educational Research Association (AERA). Virtual.

Wilson, C.M., **Mae W., N &** Horne, J. (2020, November) [selected paper presentation]. *Ignited Fire: Learning from Black Youth Activists to Cultivate Justice-driven Educational Leadership*. University Council for Educational Administration Conference (UCEA). Virtual.

Mae W., N. (2020, October) [selected paper presentation]. *Repressive Schooling*. 2020 Conference of Ford Fellows. Virtual.

Mae W., N. (2020, May) [paper presentation]. *Co-Conspirator, Activist, and Doctoral Student: Employing Decolonizing Methodologies in a Community-Based Dissertation Project with Youth Organizers of Color*. Critical Race Studies in Education Association (CRSEA). (Conference Canceled due to COVID-19)

Mae W., N. & Nickson, D. G. (2020, April) [paper presentation]. *Black Youth as Border Crossers: Navigating Education Within Metro Detroit Utilizing Perceptions of Place and Racial Story Lines* [Symposium]. American Educational Research Association (AERA). (Conference Canceled due to COVID-19).

Mae W., N., (2019, April) [paper presentation]. *The Educational State: Black Youth Activist's Meaning Making of Educational Inequity in Detroit* [Symposium]. American Educational Research Association (AERA). Toronto, Canada.

Mae W., N., (2019, April) [paper presentation]. *Stay Woke: Black Youth Activist's Utilization of Political Education* [Symposium]. American Educational Research Association (AERA). Toronto, Canada.

Mae W., N., (2018, November) [paper presentation]. *Black Youth Activists' Voice in Response to Repressive Schooling: Illuminating the Deliberate Maintenance of the Inequitable Education within Urban Communities*. International Conference on Urban Education (ICUE). Nassau, Bahamas.

Mae W., N., (2018, February) [paper presentation]. *Repressive Schooling: The Deliberate Maintenance of Black Youth Subjugation*. 14th Annual Globalization, Diversity, and Education Conference. Spokane, WA.

Mae W., N., Wilson, C., (2017, June) [paper presentation]. *Community Organizing Meets the Power of the State: The Possibilities and Limitations of Collaborative Activism in Education*. Critical Race Studies in Education Conference (CRSEA). Indianapolis, IN.

Wilson, C.M., **Mae W., N.**, & Hetrick, C., (2017, May) [paper presentation]. *Furthering Community-Based, Educational Activism Amid U.S. Government Repression*. World Education Research Association (WERA) International Research Network on Families, Educators and Communities as Educational Advocates. Toronto, Canada.

Invited Talks & Panels

- “Gifted, Black, and Woman: An NYU Steinhardt Journey” Panel (2021). *New York University*. *Invited Panelist*.
- Danforth Educational Leadership Program, “Leveraging Youth Voice, Leadership, and Expertise” (2021). *University of Washington*. *Invited Speaker*.
- [Constructive Conversations for Societal Change](#) (2020). *University of Michigan*. *Invited Panelist*.
- Graduate Student Welcome (2017-2018). *University of Michigan, Rackham Graduate School*. *Invited Speaker*.
- Student Townhall: Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion (2016). *University of Michigan, School of Education*. *Invited Facilitator*.

Commissioned Workshops

- **Mae W., N.** (2020). Scaffolding Workshops for Diversity, Equity, Inclusion & Justice. *University of Michigan, Graduate Student Instructors Training*.
- **Mae W., N.** (2019). Self-Directed Equitable Partnerships with Communities. *University of Michigan, Ginsberg Center*.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

University of Michigan

Graduate Student Research Assistant, Dr. Camille Wilson Ann Arbor, MI
September 2016 – April 2018

- Collaborated on a research project looking at an education focused community activist organization within Detroit
- Lead on the youth activist arm of the project where responsible for attending bi-weekly youth meetings, interviewing participants, and collaborating with the youth and adult organizers in the organization

University of Michigan

Graduate Student Research Apprentice, Dr. Maisie Gholson Ann Arbor, MI
September 2015 – April 2016

- Collaborated on a research project that focused on the experiences and learning outcomes of youth mathematics literacy workers and Black youth participants in relation to site-based organizational capacity of a mathematics literacy organization

New York University

Graduate Research Assistant, Drs. Michael Dumas & Edward Fergus New York, NY
June 2014 – August 2014

- Collaborated on research projects that were focusing on academic resiliency in young men of color and how constructions of Black pathologies shaped public imagination around school desegregation
- Organized research that supported each professor’s arguments and created several annotated bibliographies

New York University

New York, NY

Project Research Graduate Fellow, Dr. Edward Fergus

January 2014 – April 2014

- Researched and wrote reports on behalf of a district project in the White Plains district that was investigating the diversity of its AP and honor courses, which contributed to a published 250-page report
- Analyzed statistical data and articles that incorporated the importance of diversity within honor and AP courses, and facilitated focus groups with families to gauge their input on the diversity of the programs

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

School of Education, University of Michigan

Ann Arbor, MI

Instructor of Record

Spring 2019 & Spring 2020

School of Education, University of Michigan

Ann Arbor, MI

Graduate Student Instructor

Spring 2018

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Ellis, N. & Sugarman, M. L. (2020, June 11). Instances of racism add up. Here are 5 ways to cope. *The Washington Post*. <https://www.washingtonpost.com/gender-identity/instances-of-racism-add-up-here-are-5-ways-to-cope/>

Rackham Public Engagement Fellowship

Detroit, MI

Rackham Public Engagement Fellow

June 2019 – August 2019

- Selected to be a part of the pilot year of self-directed fellowships within the Rackham Public Engagement summer program to work with youth activists in a community-based organization in Detroit
- Co-created youth activist trainings with youth leaders, built campaign guides for their organizing cycle, and co-constructed the organizer training curriculum for the incoming youth activists and educational stakeholders in the district

Ginsberg Center for Community Service and Learning

Ann Arbor, MI

Rackham Public Engagement Fellow

June 2018 – August 2018

- Selected as a fellow to assist the work of the Ginsberg Center in learning more about the community benefit in university and community partnerships
- Co-constructed with another fellow in the research and management of a literature review and report that analyzed the work of the Ginsberg Center both in their efforts with community partners and the general assessment of university and community partnerships to enhance the work of the center in its strategic planning for the upcoming year

482 Forward Youth Workshop Development

Detroit, MI

Workshop Consultant

July 2018 – August 2018

- Hired as a consultant to create two youth workshops on the history of community activism and school resources for Detroit youth attending the community organizations' summer program
- Collaborated with two youth workers and developed the curriculum, facilitation guidelines, and taught material for the summer programs with over 50 youth

LEADERSHIP & SERVICE

CREATE Center, University of Michigan

September 2020 – May 2021

Student Advisory Board Member

AERA Division G: Graduate Student Executive Committee
Co-Chair, Student Outreach & Mentoring Committee

August 2020 – May 2021

AERA Division G: Graduate Student Executive Committee

August 2019 – July 2022

AERA Division G: Graduate Student Executive Committee
Co-Chair, Student Outreach & Mentoring Committee

August 2020 – May 2021

AERA Division G: Graduate Student Executive Committee
Graduate Student Member

August 2019 – July 2022

UM School of Education OUTSPOKEN
Co-Chair

March 2017 – March 2020

UM Rackham Student Government
President

May 2017 – April 2019

UM Student Life Student Fee Advisory Committee
Co-Chair

May 2017 – April 2019

UM Rackham Dean Search Advisory Committee
Member

December 2017 – April 2018

UM School of Education Policy and Practice Editorial Board
Co-Editor

November 2015 – March 2018

UM Rackham Student Government
Vice President

May 2016 – April 2017

UM Rackham Student Government
Social and Behavioral Sciences Representative

October 2015 – May 2016

NYU Steinhardt Black Graduate Student Association
Founder/Chair

October 2014 – May 2015

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

College of Literature, Sciences, & Arts; University of Michigan
Workshop Consultant

Ann Arbor, MI
 August 2020

- Invited to consult on graduate student instructor training workshops that centered on diversity, equity, justice and inclusion
- Created rubrics and assessments for scaffolding workshops based on the experience of the participant and provided pointed feedback to workshops that spanned across whiteness and white supremacy, assessments, accessible classrooms, and teaching for justice

Ginsberg Center for Community Service and Learning
Graduate Liaison & Consultant

Ann Arbor, MI
 September 2018 – July 2020

- Facilitated workshops to various student organizations, community engagement courses, and staff to teach the essentials of community engagement work through the levels of entering, engaging, and exiting communities
- Consulted as a graduate lead in constructing facilitation guides and curriculum to assist in enhancing the teaching of building equitable partnerships with communities and universities

NSF Early Career Grant, Dr. Maisie Gholson

Project Manager

Ann Arbor, MI

September 2019 – July 2020

- Provided logistics of meetings, backwards planning of the five-year mixed methods study, and budgeting of researchers for a one-million-dollar grant
- Co-lead in building partnerships and recruitment from communities in Detroit, Dearborn, and Ypsilanti as well as maintain relationships with the University of Michigan's Wolverine Pathways program for the partnership with the grant goals and plans

School of Education, University of Michigan

Course Consultant/Graduate Research Assistant

Ann Arbor, MI

May 2019 – September 2019

- Co-constructed the curriculum for a course on multiculturalism in society and schools for secondary teacher interns
- Revamped materials, slide decks, and syllabi for the required course that will be the foundation to the future courses of the teacher education program for secondary students

Student Life Bias Response Team, University of Michigan

Graduate Assistant

Ann Arbor, MI

February 2018 – January 2019

- Assisted the work of the UM Student Life unit for the prevention of bias incidents and responses within the campus community
- Co-constructed and lead workshops, curriculum, and trainings about bias prevention and knowledge around diversity, equity, and inclusion efforts

New York City Department of Education

Expanded Success Initiative Fellowship Program Coordinator

New York, NY

October 2014 – August 2015

- Developed partnerships for three new public secondary schools that was created under the Expanded Success Initiative in Fall of 2014 under the NY Department of Education
- Lead program coordinator for over 300 students and 50 staff members in recruitment, outreach, and presentations that included organizing logistics, agendas, building strategic partnerships, and developing content for workshops and conferences

Opportunity Charter School

Internship Coordinator

New York, NY

November 2013 – June 2014

- Operated and managed an internship program for high school students by working on resumes, cover letters, interviewing skills, and connecting students with programs that were related to their career interests
- Consulted with students about their career interests to connect them towards their desired field, and coordinated over twenty presentations with community-based organizations to build strategic partnerships

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Engaged Pedagogy Initiative

Participant

Ann Arbor, MI

September 2020 – December 2020

- Selected to join a cohort of doctoral students at the University of Michigan to engage in public scholarship and professional development to develop a community-engaged course as a future publicly engaged scholar

National Center for Institutional Diversity, University of Michigan

Ann Arbor, MI

Emerging Diversity Scholar

January 2018 – May 2020

- Selected to be a part of the inaugural Emerging Diversity Scholars Network to be trained as a part of the next generation of diverse scholars through networking and professional development workshops in diversity research and scholarship

UM Center for Research on Learning and Teaching

Ann Arbor, MI

Preparing Future Faculty Seminar Participant

May 2019 – June 2019

- Selected as a seminar attendee to a nationally recognized 6-week program to prepare doctoral candidates for faculty positions
- Workshops included inclusive teaching, faculty work life at different types of institutions, preparation for tenure, mentoring on the academic job search, and course design development

AERA Critical Educators for Social Justice Forum

New York, NY

Graduate Student Participant

April 2018

- Selected and participated in CESJ at AERA to learn and network with scholars whose research focused on activism in education as a part of a half day selective forum

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

American Educational Research Association; Division G: Social Context of Education

American Educational Research Association; Division L: Educational Policy and Politics

American Educational Research Association; Action Research

American Educational Research Association; Critical Educators for Social Justice

American Educational Research Association; Family, School, Community Partnerships

American Educational Research Association; Grassroots Community and Youth Organizing for Educational Justice

American Educational Research Association; Research Focus on Black Education

Critical Race Studies in Education Association

Socialism Conference