

Esohe Rachel Osai, Ph.D.

Curriculum Vitae

Assistant Professor of Practice

Department of Health and Human Development
School of Education | University of Pittsburgh
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EDUCATION

Ph.D. Education and Psychology, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, April 2016

Dissertation Title: On Purpose: Motivational and Contextual Predictors of Purpose and Positive Engagement Among Urban-residing, African American Youth (Chair, Dr. Jacqueline Mattis)

M.S. Psychology, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, April, 2013

Thesis: The Relationship between Music Involvement and School Engagement in Adolescence: Is there a Case for the Arts? (Reader: Dr. Jacquelynne Eccles)

Ed.M. Specialized Studies, Harvard Graduate School of Education, Cambridge, June, 2006

Curriculum in adolescent development, urban education, and youth development policy

B.A. Secondary Education, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, April, 2005

Teaching Certification; Urban education endorsement

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

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| 2019 – Present | Assistant Professor of Practice, Applied Developmental Psychology Program, Department of Health and Human Development. School of Education, University of Pittsburgh, PA |
| 2017 – 2018 | Lecturer, Teacher Education. School of Education, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI |

SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY-BASED WORK EXPERIENCE

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| 2018 – Present | Co-Founder, The Good Neighbor Collective, Community-based Not for Profit, Pittsburgh, PA |
| 2016 – Present | Independent Consultant, CUSP Consulting, Strategies and Services for Schools and Communities, Pittsburgh, PA |
| 2015 – 2019 | Program Director, Pitt-Assisted Communities & Schools, University of Pittsburgh School of Social Work, Pittsburgh, PA |
| 2012 – 2013 | Independent Consultant, The Detroit Community-Academic Urban Research Center, University of Michigan School of Public Health, Ann Arbor, MI |
| 2011 – 2012 | Independent Consultant, Project Healthy Schools, University of Michigan Medical School, Ann Arbor, MI |
| 2010 – 2013 | School-University Partnership Program Coordinator, University of Michigan School of Education in partnership with Detroit School of Arts, Detroit, MI |

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2006 – 2010 High School Teacher, University Preparatory High School, Detroit, MI

HONORS AND AWARDS

Dean's Distinguished Community Engagement/RPP Award, University of Pittsburgh School of Education, 2021
Partnership of Distinction, University of Pittsburgh Office of Community and Government Relations, 2021
Barbara Oleshansky, University of Michigan Psychology Department Award, 2015
Radcliff/Ramsdell Fellowship, Rackham Graduate School, 2011 & 2014
King/Chavez/Parks Future Faculty Fellowship, Rackham Graduate School, 2013
Graduate Research Fellowship Program Honorable Mention, National Science Foundation, 2011
Rackham Graduate Research Award, 2013, 2014
Alliance for Graduate Education and the Professoriate Award, 2011
Rackham Merit Fellowship, Rackham Graduate School, 2010
Fellowship, Institute for the Recruitment of Teachers, 2004
Fellowship, Rockefeller Brothers Teaching Fellowship, 2004
Hopwood Writing Award "Public Education and the Social Construction of Race Dissected", University of Michigan, 2004

GRANTS

- **Osai, E.** & Campbell, S.L. (2021-2023) Pitt Momentum Scaling Award. Grantor: University of Pittsburgh Office of the Provost \$226, 038 (*Funded*)
- **Osai, E.** (2020-2022) Justice Scholars Operations. Grantor: The Pittsburgh Foundation \$175,00 (*Funded*)
- **Osai, E.** (PI), Caldwell, K., Donaldson, K., Giazzoni, M., Haynik, R. Huguley, Skukan, L., Wallace, J. (2019-2021). Justice Scholars Expansion. Grantor: University of Pittsburgh Chancellor's Seed Award, \$50,000 (*Funded*)
- Wallace, J., **Osai, E.**, (2018-2020). Justice Scholars Institute. Grantor: The Pittsburgh Foundation \$116,725 (*Funded*)
- Wallace, J., Huguley, J., **Osai, E.**, (2018-2020). Pitt-Assisted Communities & Schools. Grantor: RK Mellon Foundation \$335,000 (*Funded*)
- **Osai, E.**, Gale, A., Cole-Lewis, Y., Guillaume, C., Jerald, M., Mattis, J., & Rochester, S. (2015). National Black Graduate Conference in Psychology. Grantor: Department of Psychology \$7,000 (*Funded*)
- Cole-Lewis, Y., Jerald, M., Gale, A., Guillaume, C., Mattis, J., **Osai, E.**, & Rochester, S. (2015). National Black Graduate Conference in Psychology. Grantor: Office of the Dean, College of Literature Arts and Sciences \$7,000 (*Funded*)
- Guillaume, C., Rochester, S. Cole-Lewis, Y., Gale, A., Jerald, M., Mattis, J., & **Osai, E.** (2015). National Black Graduate Conference in Psychology. Grantor: Office of the Dean, Rackham School of Graduate Studies \$7,000 (*Funded*)
- Mattis, J., Cole-Lewis, Y., Gale, A., Guillaume, C., Jerald, M., **Osai, E.**, & Rochester, S. (2015). National Black Graduate Conference in Psychology. Grantor: Office of the Vice-Provost of Equity, Inclusion and Academic Affairs \$15,000 (*Funded*)

PEER REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

Howison, M, **Osai, E.**, & Akiva (in press). The Role of Philanthropy, Research, and Evaluation in Shaping Learning and Development Ecosystems: The Case of Creative Learning in Pittsburgh. Charlotte: Information Age Publishing

Osai, E. & Kubis, D. (in press). Redreaming Boundaries and Community Engagement: John Edgar Wideman and the Homewood Reading Series. *Kalfou*

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Hecht, M., Akiva, T. & **Osai, E.** (2021). *Arts Learning Across a City: How Ecosystem Thinking Helps Shape Understanding of Black-Centered and Eurocentric Arts Programming* [Manuscript submitted for publication]. School of Education, University of Pittsburgh

Osai, E., Huguley, J.P., Giazzoni, M., & Wallace, J.M. (2021) Developing Justice Scholars: A social justice intervention to support educational equity for urban-residing students. *Children & Schools*.

REPORTS

Osai, E., Oxley, G. & Haynik, R. (2020). The Justice Scholars Institute: An equity-focused, college preparatory initiative. Pittsburgh, PA: University of Pittsburgh. Available at <http://tiny.cc/JSIreport>

Akiva, T., Hecht, M., & **Osai, E.** (2019). Creative Learning in Pittsburgh. Pittsburgh, PA: University of Pittsburgh. Available at <http://tiny.cc/CLPgh>

Tharp-Gilliam, S., **Osai, E.**, & Koury, A. (2017). Pittsburgh Black Elected Officials Coalition Pittsburgh Peace and Justice Initiative, Phase 1 Report. Pittsburgh, PA: Homewood Children's Village. Available at <https://pbeoc.org/>.

Wallace, J. M., Myers, V. L., & **Osai, E.** (2004). Faith matters: Race/ethnicity, religion and substance use. Baltimore, MD: The Annie E. Casey Foundation.

PEER REVIEWER

Journal of Educational Psychology
Kalfou

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Dostillio, L., Ellerbee, D., **Osai, E.**, Harvey, G., Stein, R. (2021, Jun). University-Assisted Ecosystem of Economic and Community Engagement in Homewood. Association of Public Land Grant Universities Commission on Economic and Community Engagement. Virtual Gathering.

Osai, E., Evans-Williams, J., Greer, J., McMahon, M., Philibert, I., Pollard, J. (2021, Jan). Centering Youth and Developing Pathways...in a Pandemic. Pathways Working Group Retreat. Virtual Gathering.

Osai, E., Scott, K., Tharp-Gilliam, S., (2020, Mar). Youth-Engaged Praxis in Homewood. Community Engaged Scholarship Forum. University of Pittsburgh, PA.

Osai, E., Finkelstein, C., Giazzoni, M., Haynik, R., Means, S, Oxley, G., Skukan, L. (2020, Mar). Justice Scholars: A College in High School partnership at Pittsburgh Westinghouse. Poster presented at Community Engaged Scholarship Forum. University of Pittsburgh, PA.

Hecht, M., Akiva, T. and **Osai, E.** (2020, Apr). Forging equity in a citywide creative learning ecosystem: Responding to funding shifts as natural disturbance. American Educational Research Association, San Francisco, CA (Cancelled due to COVID-19).

Huguley, J.P., **Osai, E.**, Ohmer, M.,L., Booth, J., Fussell-Ware, D., Pearl, P., Thomas, S.E. & Wallace, J.M. (2020, Jan). Reducing Pittsburgh's Racial and Economic Inequality: The Work of Pitt-Assisted Communities and Schools (PACS). Society for Social Work Research National Conference.

Hecht, M., Howison, M., **Osai, E.**, and Akiva, T. (2019, Oct). Mobilizing for creative learning: A citywide approach. Showcase presentation at the Connected Learning Summit, UC Irvine, CA.

- Osai, E.** (2017). Engagement for college readiness in schools. Invited panelist at the Netter Center Higher Education-Community Partnerships for Democracy and Social Change Conference. Philadelphia, PA.
- Wallace, J., Brown, F., Huguley, J., **Osai, E.** (2017). *School, University, and Community Collaborations to Build Resilience and Improve Children's Health: The Homewood Approach*. Invited Symposium, Society for Social Work Research. New Orleans, LA.
- Stephany, B., Lewis, W., Henderson, C. & **Osai, E.** (2016). Barriers to Success: A joint presentation by the Homewood Children's Village and Pitt-Assisted Communities & Schools in partnership for Homewood. Talk presented at Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency Conference. Moon, PA.
- Osai, E.** (2012). *Arts and engagement*. Poster presented at the Rackham Centennial Research Symposium in Ann Arbor, MI.
- Osai, E.** (2012). *The psychological value of the arts: Engaging students*. Poster presented at International Congress on Psychology. Cape Town, South Africa.
- Osai, E.** (2012). *The relationship between Music Involvement and School Engagement in Adolescence: Is there a Case for the Arts?* Poster presented at Association for Psychological Science. Chicago, IL
- Osai, E.** (2012). *Youth leadership in the context of school-university partnerships—an opportunity for positive youth development*. Poster presented at SRCD Positive Development of Minority Youth Themed Conference. Tampa, FL.
- Winborne, K., Bedoya-Skoog, A., **Osai, E.** (2011). Reflections on the youth research collaborative (YRC): A youth participatory action research initiative. Talk presented at Michigan Pre-College and Youth Outreach Conference. Ann Arbor, MI.
- Osai, E.**, Macon, T., Mustafaa, F., Richardson, B., Williams, A. (2011). Perceived importance of attending school: Relations between reason, relevance, and race. Poster presented at Black Graduate Conference in Psychology. Miami, FL.

TEACHING

Assistant Professor, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA

- *Development: Middle Childhood to Adolescence*, Master's level students, 2021 – Designed course which centers a developmental contextual frame, equity-based approaches, and student voice influence the developmental stages into and out of adolescence. Course relies on qualitative methodology to understand the experiences of adolescents and support thinking about how to promote optimal development.
- *Development: Conception through Early Childhood*, Applied Developmental Psychology – College in High School course at three PA high schools, 2020 – 2021 – Serve as a Faculty Liaison for an undergraduate level child development course taught to high school students for University of Pittsburgh credit. Course mirrors expectations of my University of Pittsburgh course and includes a college writing expectation.
- *Practitioner Inquiry I/Foundations I*, Doctorate level students, 2020 – 2021 – Co-instructor for course that lays the foundation of knowledge for a scholarly practitioner and scaffolds students into improvement science process, as experienced within the education and health fields.
- *Children, Youth, & Communities*, Applied Developmental Psychology, Master's level students, 2020 – Designed course which privileged an ecosystems perspective of child and youth development, considering how families, schools, and community-based organizations work collaborative to support positive development and a more equitable society.
- *Development: Conception through Early Childhood*, Applied Developmental Psychology, MS, 2019 - 2022 – Taught 31 students concepts related to child development, using a community-grounded model for course

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instruction and engagement. Facilitated literature review in which students examined child development through research, practice, and policy lenses.

- *Professional Seminar 1*, Applied Developmental Psychology, Master's level students, 2019 - 2020 – Instructor for students involved in a capstone process, which includes a community-based placement and a research/evaluation process. Provide guidance on project development and implementation.
- *Professional Seminar 2*, Applied Developmental Psychology, Master's level students, 2021 – Instructor for students involved in a capstone process, which includes a community-based placement and a research/evaluation process. Provide guidance on project development and implementation.

Lecturer, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI

- *Motivation and Engagement in Schools*, Masters Program in Urban Pedagogy, 2018 – Designed course and independently taught. Created syllabus and course assignments, delivered lectures, facilitated course activities, and assessed student work.
- *Education in a Multicultural Society*, Teacher Education, BA, 2018 –Independently taught course School of Education required course, with material and resources from course designer and instructor, Dr. Carla O'Connor. Delivered modified syllabus and course assignments, presented lectures, facilitated course activities, and assessed student work.

Graduate Student Instructor, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI

- *Educational Psychology and Human Development*, Masters Program in Urban Pedagogy, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015 – Designed course and independently taught. Created syllabus and course assignments, delivered lectures, facilitated course activities, and assessed student work.
- *Educational Psychology and Human Development*, Teacher Education, BA, 2012 – Independently taught course to students in teacher certification program; worked with a team to design syllabus and course lessons, assessed student work, delivered lectures, and facilitated course activities
- *Psychology of Religion*, Cognitive Psychology, MS Upper Level, 2012 – Served as teaching assistant to professor and responsible for course grading and office hours for over 100 students. Also planned and delivered a class lecture.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

National Association for Concurrent Enrollment Partnerships
American Psychological Association,
Division 45 - Society for the Psychological Study of Ethnic Minority Issues
American Educational Research Association
Association for Psychological Science
International Positive Psychology Association
Society for Social Work Research

PROFESSIONAL TRAINING AND CERTIFICATION

Certificate Program on Mixed Methods Research, University of Michigan School of Social Work, 2020
Evaluation for Community Impact, Tamarack Institute, Hamilton, Ontario, 2016
Foundations of Good Research Practice and Authorship, Publication, and Peer Review, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, 2011
Mixed Methods Courses, Summer Institute in Survey Research Techniques
Survey Research Center (SRC), University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, 2011
Intro to Statistics and Data Analysis I & II, Inter-University Consortium for Political and Social Research (ICPSR), University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, 2010
Good to Great School Leadership Training, University Preparatory Academy, Detroit, MI, 2006-2007

SERVICE

Regional/National

Association of American Universities Advisory Board on Racial Equity in Higher Education
Task Force on Dual Enrollment and Pre-Apprenticeships – a subcommittee of the Institute of Politics Workforce
Development Policy Committee

Local/Community

- Co-Founder, The Good Neighbor Collective 2018-present
- Bethany Community Ministries Board Member, 2020-present
- MAD DADS Board Member, 2016-present
- John Edgar Wideman Experience Advisory Committee, 2016-2017
- Life Remodeled, Community Outreach Director, 2015
- Youthville, Health Advisory Board Member, 2006-2009

University of Pittsburgh

- Budget and Planning Committee, School of Education, 2020 - present
- Applied Developmental Psychology Master's program leadership, Member, 2019-present
- Faculty Search Committee, Member, 2019, 2020
- Race and Community Engagement (R.A.C.E.) Alliance, Advisor, 2016-2018

University of Michigan

- Planning Committee, Black Graduate Conference in Psychology, 2015
- Executive Committee, Combined Program in Education and Psychology, 2010-2011, 2014
- Community Service Chair, Black Student Psychological Association, 2012-2013
- Student Ambassador, School of Education, 2011-2013
- Communications Chair, Combined Program in Education and Psychology, 2011-2012
- Community Service Chair, Students of Color of Rackham (SCOR), 2011-2012