

EDITH GNANADASS

123 Ball Hall, Memphis, TN 38152. (901) 678-1167. e.gnanadass@memphis.edu

EDUCATION

Ph.D. – Lifelong Learning & Adult Education with a Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Minor, *Pennsylvania State University*, University Park, PA, 2016

- Dissertation title: *Perpetual Outsiders?: Learning Race in the South Asian American Experience*

M.B.A. – International Business, *Thunderbird School of Global Management*, Glendale, AZ, 1988

B.B.A. – Finance and Banking, *University of Wisconsin*, Madison, WI, 1985

- Graduated with Distinction

AWARDS, GRANTS, AND FELLOWSHIPS

Conrad Frank, Jr. Graduate Fellowship in the College of Education, Pennsylvania State University (2010 – 2015)

African American Studies Graduate Assistantship, Pennsylvania State University (Spring 2015)

Roothbert Fund Scholarship (2013 – 2014)

Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Graduate Assistantship, Pennsylvania State University (2010 – 2014)

Mimi Barash Coppersmith Endowed Scholarship in Women's Studies, Pennsylvania State University (2012 – 2013)

College of Education Graduate Student Research Initiation Grant, Pennsylvania State University (2012 – 2013)

Women's Studies Outstanding Graduate Student Teaching Award, Pennsylvania State University (2010 – 2011)

Bunton-Waller Graduate Award, Pennsylvania State University (2006 – 2010)

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Assistant Professor – University of Memphis, Higher and Adult Education Program, 2017 – Present

Senior Research Assistant – Pennsylvania State University, Goodling Institute for Family Literacy & Institute for the Study of Adult Literacy, 2015 – 2017 (full time, faculty position)

Graduate Research Assistant, Pennsylvania State University, African American Studies Program, 2015

Graduate Research Assistant, Pennsylvania State University, Adult Education Program, 2006 - 2007

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Assistant Professor – University of Memphis, Higher and Adult Education Program, 2017 – Present

Graduate Courses: *Issues and Trends in Adult Learning; Adult Learning and Leadership, Policy-Oriented Research, Research in Higher and Adult Education*

Senior Research Assistant – Pennsylvania State University, Goodling Institute for Family Literacy & Institute for the Study of Adult Literacy, 2015 – 2017 (full time, faculty position)

Graduate Courses: *Adult Literacy; Introduction to Family Literacy*

Affiliate Assistant Professor – Pennsylvania State University, Lifelong Learning & Adult Education Program, 2016 – 2017

Graduate Courses: *Historical and Social Issues in Adult Education; Introduction to Adult Education*

Adjunct Professor - University of Houston, Adult and Higher Education Program, Summer 2014

Graduate Courses: *Research in Adult and Higher Education*

Instructor - Pennsylvania State University

Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies 2010 – 2014

Undergraduate Courses: *Black and White Sexuality; Introduction to Women's and Gender Studies*

Lifelong Learning & Adult Education Program, 2008 – 2009

Graduate Courses: *Introduction to Adult Education*

Graduate Teaching Assistant - Pennsylvania State University 2006 – 2008; 2010

Graduate Courses: *Introduction to Adult Education; Research and Evaluation in Adult Education*

Family Literacy Coordinator/Teacher - Literacy Partners, Inc., New York, NY 1995 –1998

ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages) Teacher - UNITE (Union of Needletrades, Industrial and Textile Employees), Brooklyn, NY 1992 - 1997

GED (General Education Diploma) Teacher - Consortium for Worker Education, New York, NY 1992 – 1996

ESOL and GED Teacher - Centro de Educación de Trabajadores, New York, NY 1990 – 1998

PUBLICATIONS (*denotes graduate student)

Peer-Reviewed Articles

Gnanadass, E., Murray, K., & Vetter M. (2021). Narrating the Immigrant Experience: Three Adult Educators' Perspectives. *Adult Learning*, 32(1), 40-49. <https://doi.org/10.1177/1045159520977708>

Gnanadass, E., & Merriweather, L. (2020). Troubling the discursive moment: Using Black texts for activating dialogue. *New Directions for Adult and Continuing Education: Adult Education in the Age of Trump and Brexit*, 165, 21-33.

Gnanadass, E. (2014). Learning to teach about race: The racialized experience of a South Asian American feminist educator. *Adult Learning*, 25(3), 96-102.

Toso, B. W., Prins, E., Drayton, B., **Gnanadass, E., & Gungor, R. (2009).** Finding voice: Shared decision making and student leadership in a family literacy program. *Adult Basic Education and Literacy Journal*, 3(3), 151-160.

Invited Articles

Gnanadass, E. (2019). "Race"ing White Instructors: Beyond the Black-White Binary. *Adult Literacy Education: The International Journal of Literacy, Language, and Numeracy*, 1(2), 96-102.

Articles Submitted for Publication

Gnanadass, E., & Happel-Parkins, A. (2021). A COVID conversation: Two academic mamas discuss their balancing acts. Manuscript submitted for publication.

Griswold, W., Patel, M. P., & **Gnanadass, E. (2020).** 'One Person Cannot Change It; It's Going to Take A Community': *Traditional Learning Theories and Community Environmental Education*. Manuscript submitted for publication.

Book Chapters

Gnanadass, E., & *Sanders, Amelia Y. (2019). Gender still matters in distance education. In M. G. Moore & W. C. Diehl (Eds.), *Handbook of distance education* (4th ed.) (pp. 79-91). New York, NY: Routledge.

Book Reviews

Gnanadass, E. (2017). Beyond economic interests: Critical Perspectives on adult literacy and numeracy in a globalised world [book review]. *Adult Education Quarterly*, 68(3), 255-256.

Refereed Conference Proceedings

Gnanadass, E., Bellue, K., Dunn, C., & Tinoco, J. (2020). Saved by bell: Using hooks as an Intervention into Southern Higher Education Curriculum. In J. S. Olson, K. Elufiede, & L. Murray-Lemon (Eds.), *Proceedings of the 44th Annual Conference of the Adult Higher Education Alliance (AHEA)* (pp. 39-44). Orlando, FL: University of Central Florida.

Gnanadass, E. (2018, June). Learning race: School as a site of racialization. *Proceedings of the 59th National Conference of the Adult Education Research Conference*. Victoria, Canada: University of Victoria.

Gnanadass, E. (2013). A study of the racial and cultural experience of South Asian Americans in the United States: A preliminary analysis. *Proceedings of the 54nd National Conference of the Adult Education Research Conference*. St. Louis, Missouri: The University of Missouri.

Gnanadass, E., & Baptiste, I. (2011). From objects to subjects: Voices, perspectives, histories, and learning in the South Asian American experience. In S. Carpenter, S. Dossa, & B. J. Osborne (Eds.), *Proceedings of the 52nd National Conference of the Adult Education Research Conference (AERC) and the 30th National Conference of the Canadian Association for the Study of Adult Education (CASAE)/ L'Association Canadienne pour l'Étude de l'Éducation des Adultes (ACÉÉA)* (pp. 239-246). Toronto, Canada: University of Toronto.

Gnanadass, E. (2008). Adding 'Masala' to Community: Complicating Interactional Theory with Culture. In M. L. Rowland (Ed.), *Proceedings of the 27th Annual Midwest Research-to-Practice Conference in Adult, Continuing, Community, and Extension Education* (pp. 74-79). Bowling Green, Kentucky: Western Kentucky University.

Toso, B. W., Prins, E., **Gnanadass, E.,** Drayton, B., & Gungor, R. (2007). Finding voice: Adult learners and shared decision making in family literacy. In R. C. Young (Ed.), *Proceedings of the 26th Annual Midwest Research-to-Practice Conference in Adult, Continuing, Community, and Extension Education* (pp. 134-139). Muncie, IN: Ball State University.

Diehl, W. C., **Gnanadass, E.,** Gungor, R., Crandall, J., Long, E., Park H. M., & Schied F. M. (2007). Knowledge construction in the early years: A content analysis of three adult education journals. In R. C. Young (Ed.), *Proceedings of the 26th Annual Midwest Research-to-Practice Conference in Adult, Continuing, Community, and Extension Education*. Muncie, IN: Ball State University.

Technical Reports and Other Publications

Toso, B. W., Prins, E., Drayton, B., Gungor, R., & **Gnanadass, E.** (2008, October). Moving towards participatory adult education: Involving family literacy students in meaningful leadership experiences. Research Brief #4. University Park, PA: Goodling Institute for Research in Family Literacy.
http://www.ed.psu.edu/goodlinginstitute/pdf/Research_Brief_4_Final.pdf

PRESENTATIONS (*denotes graduate student)

Peer-Reviewed

Murray-Johnson, K., **Gnanadass, E.,** & Merriweather, L. (2020, October). Difficult dialogues online: Engaging authenticity in an age of social distancing. Presented at the 2020 American Association for Adult and Continuing Education Conference [Virtual Conference].

Menke, D., Griswold, W., & **Gnanadass, E.** (2020, October). Human Sustainability: Collaborative learning for health and well-being in the academy [Research Roundtable]. Presented at the 2020 American Association for Adult and Continuing Education Conference [Virtual Conference].

- Gnanadass, E.,** Murray, K., & Vetter M. (2020, June). Where do we go from here? Immigrant Scholars on Race and the Teaching of Race [Symposium]. Adult Education in Global Times Conference. Vancouver, Canada: University of British Columbia. (Conference canceled)
- Gnanadass, E.,** Griswold, W., & Menke, D. (2020, June). Human Sustainability: Collaborative learning for health and well-being in the academy [Research Roundtable]. Adult Education in Global Times Conference. Vancouver, Canada: University of British Columbia. (Conference canceled)
- Gnanadass, E.,** *Bellue, K., *Dunn C., & *Tinoco, J. (2020, March). Saved by bell: Using hooks as an Intervention into Southern Higher Education Curriculum. Presented at the 2020 Adult Higher Education Alliance Conference, Orlando, FL.
- Gnanadass, E.** (2019, October). Religion as an Attribute of Race? Implications for Education Today. Presented at the 2019 Commission for Professors of Adult Education Conference, St. Louis, MO.
- Gnanadass, E.** (2019, October). Saved by bell: Using hooks as a Curriculum Intervention in Southern Higher Education. Presented at the 2019 American Association for Adult and Continuing Education Conference, St. Louis, MO.
- Platt, R. E., **Gnanadass, E.,** *Clay, L., & *Johnson, A. (2019, March). The life and death of the Memphis College of Art: A history, 1936-2020. Presented at the Southern History of Education 2019 Annual Meeting. Dahlonega: Georgia: University of North Georgia.
- Gnanadass, E.** (2018, October). Beyond the Black-White binary: Race in Memphis. Presented at the 2018 Commission for Professors of Adult Education Conference, Myrtle Beach, SC.
- Gnanadass, E.** (2018, October). Learning to be racialized: The South Asian American experience in the US. Presented at the 2018 American Association for Adult and Continuing Education Conference, Myrtle Beach, SC.
- Gnanadass, E.** (2018, June). Learning race: School as a site of racialization. Paper presented at the 59th Annual Conference of the Adult Education Research Conference. Victoria, Canada: University of Victoria.
- Gnanadass, E.** (2013, June). A study of the racial and cultural experience of South Asian Americans in the United States: A preliminary analysis. Paper presented at the 54th Annual Conference of the Adult Education Research Conference. St. Louis, Missouri: The University of Missouri.
- Gnanadass, E.** (2013, October). South Asian Diaspora in North America. Paper presented at the 42nd Annual Conference on South Asia. Madison, Wisconsin.
- Gnanadass, E.** & Baptiste, I. (2011, June). From objects to subjects: Voices, perspectives, histories, and learning in the South Asian American experience. Paper presented at the 52nd Annual Adult Education Research Conference and the 30th National Conference of the Canadian Association for the Study of Adult Education (CASAE)/ L'Association Canadienne pour l'Étude de l'Éducation des Adultes (ACÉÉA), Toronto, Canada.
- Gnanadass, E.** (2008, October). Adding 'Masala' to Community: Complicating Interactional Theory with Culture. Paper presented at the 27th Annual Midwest Research-to-Practice Conference in Adult, Continuing, Community, and Extension Education, Bowling Green, Kentucky.
- Toso, B. W., Prins, E., **Gnanadass, E.,** Drayton, B., & Gungor, R. (2007, September). Finding voice: Adult learners and shared decision making in family literacy. Paper presented at the 26th Annual Midwest Research-to-Practice Conference in Adult, Continuing, Community, and Extension Education, Muncie, Indiana.

Diehl, W., **Gnanadass, E.**, Gungor, R., Long, E., Crandall, J., Park, H. & Schied, F. (2007, September). "Knowledge construction in the early years: A content analysis of the three adult education journals, 1929-1955." Paper presented at the 26th Annual Midwest Research-to-Practice Conference in Adult, Continuing, Community, and Extension Education, Muncie, Indiana.

Invited

Gnanadass, E. (March 19, 2021). Happy Kamala Harris day: The impact of the first female Vice President on Adult and Higher Education. Revisioning Adult Higher Education Webinar Series. Women in Adult and Higher Education: Roles, Barriers and Leadership. SUNY Empire State College, Saratoga Springs, New York.

Gnanadass, E. (April 26, 2020). Research Methodology. Doc 306: Qualitative Research Methods, Drake University, Des Moines, Iowa.

Gnanadass, E. (April 27, 2018). Ethnography. Doc 306: Qualitative Research Methods, Drake University, Des Moines, Iowa.

Gnanadass, E., & Asino, S. (February 21, 2018). Navigating the Doctoral Process: Insider Tips from Alumni. Lifelong Learning and Adult Education Program Brown Bag Seminar, Pennsylvania State University, University Park, Pennsylvania.

Prins, E., Schafft, K., **Gnanadass, E.**, & Dolet, N. (January 25, 2017). Applying and Interviewing for Faculty Positions: Insider Tips from Search Committee Members. Lifelong Learning and Adult Education Program Brown Bag Seminar, Pennsylvania State University, University Park, Pennsylvania.

Gnanadass, E., Toso, B.W., & Clymer, C. (October 16, 2016). Toyota Family Learning: 2015-2016 a Brief Overview. 2016 Families Learning Summit, National Center for Families Learning, Detroit, Michigan.

Gnanadass, E. (December 7, 2015). Veni, vidi, vici, Philosophiae Doctor (I came; I saw; I conquered Ph.D.): My experiences as a Ph.D. student navigating academia. Lifelong Learning and Adult Education Program Brown Bag Seminar, Pennsylvania State University, University Park, Pennsylvania.

Toso, B.W., **Gnanadass, E.**, & Clymer, C. (October 8, 2015). Toyota Family Learning: 2014-2015 a Brief Overview. 2015 Families Learning Summit, National Center for Families Learning, Louisville, Kentucky.

Schied, F., **Gnanadass, E.**, & associates. (2008). A Discussion of Issues: Community Organizing in Economically Disadvantaged Areas. Houle Engaged Scholars Symposium, The Outreach Scholarship Conference. (2008), Pennsylvania State University, University Park, Pennsylvania.

PANEL

Gnanadass, E. (2019). *Putting Race on the Table: Beyond the black white binary*. National Civil Rights Museum: Memphis, TN.

Gnanadass, E. (2002). *What's Up? The Rapid Increase of Young People in GED and Adult Education Programs*. New York Citywide School-to-Work Alliance, Literacy Assistance Center, and New York City Professional Development Consortium: New York, NY.

Gnanadass, E. (1999). *Effective Workplace Programs for People with Learning Disabilities*. NYC Learning Disabilities Network: New York, NY.

Gnanadass, E. (1998). *Literacy Panel*. Adult Literacy Media Alliance: New York, NY.

Gnanadass, E. (1997). *Partners for Success*. Bank Street College of Education Partners for Success Annual Conference: New York, NY.

Gnanadass, E. (1997). *Program Evaluation Case Study*. What Works Literacy Partnership: New York, NY.

MEDIA

Williams, R. (2019, December 11). National Civil Rights Museum hosts Unpacking Racism for Actions Series [Video file]. Retrieved from <https://www.localmemphis.com/news/web-extras/national-civil-rights-museum-hosts-unpacking-racism-for-actions-series/>

INSTITUTIONAL SERVICE

Service at University of Memphis

Department and College

Panelist, College of Education Inaugural Institute on Equity-driven Teaching, 2020
 Member, Department of Leadership Admissions Committee, 2017 – Present
 Member, Counseling Psychology Assistant Professor Search Committee – 2019 – 2020
 Member, Department of Leadership Assistant Professor, K-12 Leadership and Policy Studies Search Committee – 2019 – 2020
 Member, Department of Leadership Faculty Evaluation Committee, 2019 – Present
 Interim Co-Coordinator, Qualitative Inquiry Circle (QUIC), 2020
 Department Representative, College of Education Graduate Council, 2018 – Present
 Chair, Curriculum Council for the Department of Leadership, 2018 – Present
 Department Representative, College of Education Strategic Planning Focus Groups, 2018 - 2019
 Member, Higher and Adult Education Assistant/Associate Professor Search Committee, 2017 - 2018
 Member, Department of Leadership Awards Committee, 2017 - 2018

University

Member, Diversity Initiative, 2019 - Present
 Faculty Advisor, Safety Net (Registered Student Organization), 2018– Present
 Volunteer, Ask Me Directions, 2019
 Certified Instructor, Green Dot Bystander Intervention Program, 2018 – Present
 Member, Warm Welcome, 2018
 Member, Critical Conversations Planning Committee, 2017 – 2019

Service at Pennsylvania State University

Community Liaison, Interdisciplinary Roundtable on Immigration, 2016 – 2017
 Advisor, Sigma Sigma Rho Sorority Inc., 2010 – 2013
 Member, Adult Education Assistant/Associate Professor Search Committee, 2011 – 2012
 Founder member, Adult Education Peer Mentoring Program, 2007 – 2012
 Member, Women’s Studies Post Doc Search Committee, 2010 – 2011
 Officer, Women’s Studies Graduate Organization, 2009 – 2010
 Graduate Council Representative, Graduate School Association, 2008 – 2009
 Member, Graduate Council Committee on Committees and Procedures, 2008 – 2009
 Member, Graduate Council Committee on Graduate Student and Faculty Issues, 2008 – 2009
 Founding member, Adult Education Brown Bag Series, 2007 – 2009
 Member, Committee for Community-Directed Research and Education Research for communities of Belmont, PA and Grenada, 2006 – 2008

Professional Service

Special Issues Editor, *Dialogues in Social Justice: An Adult Education Journal* themed issue on “Being Black in the United States,” 2020 – Present

Executive Board Member, Commission of Professors of Adult Education (CPAE), 2020 - Present

Board Member, Adult Higher Education Alliance (AHEA), 2019 – Present

Book Review Editor, *Dialogues in Social Justice: An Adult Education Journal*, 2018 – Present

Proposal Reviewer, American Association for Adult and Continuing Education Conference, 2019, 2020, 2021

Grant Reviewer, The Roothbert Fund, 2017

Assistant to the Editors, *The Routledge Companion to the Philosophy of Race*, 2016 - 2017

Ad Hoc Article Reviews

American Journal of Distance Education

Adult Learning Journal

Dialogues in Social Justice: An Adult Education Journal

SERVICE IN MEMPHIS

Board member, Literacy Mid-South, 2020 - Present

Member, Unpacking Racism for Action Class offered by the National Civil Rights Museum, 2018 - 2019

RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

Brooklyn Child and Family Services, Inc., Brooklyn, NY, 2004 – 2006

Deputy Executive Director/Program Director

Turning Point, Brooklyn, NY, 1998 – 2004

Deputy Executive Director, 2002 – 2004

Program Director, Education Center, 1998 – 2002

Literacy Partners, Inc., New York, NY, 1995 –1998

Assessment Manager

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Centro de Educación de Trabajadores, New York, NY, 1990 – 1998

Managing Board Member

CONSULTING

Adult Literacy Media Alliance (ALMA), New York, NY, 2002

National Trainer

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

American Educational Research Association (AERA)

Commission for Professors of Adult Education (CPAE)

American Association for Adult and Continuing Education (AAACE)

DOCTORAL DISSERTATIONS CHAIRED

Vandecoevering, Kelley (2019). Leadership on Military Installations: Employee Perception of Leadership Involvement and Safety.