

## **DIA DA COSTA**

Department of Educational Policy Studies  
Faculty of Education, University of Alberta,  
Edmonton, Alberta, Canada  
Phone: 780-492-7608  
Email: [ddacosta@ualberta.ca](mailto:ddacosta@ualberta.ca)

### **ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS**

- 2019-present:**                    **Associate Director,**  
Intersections of Gender, Signature Area, University of Alberta
- 2018 – present:**                **Full Professor (tenured)**  
Department of Educational Policy Studies,  
University of Alberta, Edmonton, Canada
- 2015-present:**                **Associate Professor (tenured)**  
Department of Educational Policy Studies,  
University of Alberta, Edmonton, Canada
- 2011-2015:**                    **Associate Professor (tenured)**  
Department of Global Development Studies  
Cross-Appointed in Department of Sociology  
Affiliated with Cultural Studies Program  
Queen's University  
Kingston, Canada
- 2007-2011:**                    **Assistant Professor (tenure-track),**  
Department of Global Development Studies  
Cross-Appointed in Department of Sociology  
Affiliated with Cultural Studies Program  
Queen's University  
Kingston, Canada
- 2004–2007:**                    **Assistant Professor (tenure-track),**  
Department of Sociology/Anthropology  
Hobart and William Smith Colleges  
Geneva, New York
- 2004:**                            **Instructor,**  
Department of Development Sociology,  
Cornell University  
Ithaca, New York
- 2003:**                            **Instructor,**

Department of Development Sociology,  
Cornell University  
Ithaca, New York

## **EDUCATION**

- 2003: Ph.D., Department of Development Sociology, Faculty of Agriculture and Life Sciences, Cornell University, New York, USA
- 1998: M.A. in Sociology of Education, Department of Sociology, University of Warwick, England
- 1996: B.A. (Honours) in Sociology, Lady Shri Ram College for Women, University of Delhi, India

## **CITIZENSHIP**

Indian  
Permanent Resident of Canada

## **SPECIAL LEAVE**

I was on maternity leave from November 1, 2011 until October 31, 2012.  
I was on maternity leave starting September 1, 2015 until April 15, 2016.

## **PUBLICATIONS**

### **Single-Authored Books**

- 2016 *Politicizing Creative Economy: Activism and a Hunger called Theater*. Dissident Feminisms Series, Urbana-Champaign: University of Illinois Press.

"Da Costa provides powerful analytic tools to interrogate the ways activists such as Bird Song work within and against the complicities and potentialities of neoliberal creative economy discourse and practice. . . . A powerful feminist intervention."—Heather McLean, University of Glasgow, *Antipode*

"By exploring these two companies Da Costa challenges the optimism that surrounds creative economic theory by revealing the messiness of its realities for communities that hunger for the arts in the neoliberal present."—Sarah Saddler, University of Minnesota. *Theatre Journal*

"Da Costa's work represents a milestone in the study of India's place in a globalized commodification of culture. Rather than to simply point to this phenomenon or critique easy targets of religion and nation, Da Costa's book offers depth, nuance, and analytical power. No consideration of India in and

of globalization will be complete without it."—Neilesh Bose, CRC. Asian and Global Studies, University of Victoria. *Contributions to Indian Sociology*

"With its careful methodology and a praxis of intersectionality, the book enables a critical study of development to be more compelling by utilizing the aesthetic creative project – the most seemingly non-capitalized space in the daily livelihood of the poor." –Rachmi Diyah Larasati, Associate Professor, Women and Gender Studies, University of Minnesota. *International Feminist Journal of Politics*.

"Fills a gap in terms of uncovering the history of contemporary groups and locating their political work in the contexts of intersecting issues of class, caste, gender, and political power play. Importantly, it also carefully exposes the political conditions under which groups such as Jana Natya Manch and Budhan operate and the limitations and possibilities of their operations. Situating the work of the above-mentioned groups in the context of developmental discourses and within global networks of power (especially the role of UN organizations in defining 'creativity' and its implications for local contexts within India) adds an extremely important dimension to the work."--Nandi Bhatia, Professor, University of Western Ontario, author of *Performing Women/Performing Womanhood: Theatre, Politics, and Dissent in North India*

"An ambitious book. . . . Offering both a critical analysis of the sentiment of optimism that so frequently surrounds the creative economy and a sympathetic critique of the compromised opportunities that this discourse allows for marginal and oppositional cultural groups in postcolonial India."--Geraldine Pratt, Professor, University of British Columbia, author of *Families Apart: Migrant Mothers and the Conflicts of Labor and Love*

2010      *Development Dramas: Reimagining Rural Political Action in Eastern India*, New Delhi: Routledge.

"Passionate and pioneering, Dia Da Costa's *Development Dramas* unites intimate and reflexive ethnography with astutely wielded theory and incisive analysis to illuminate "representational struggle" in the lives of very real people in eastern India. At the heart of this work are the plays, politics and convictions of Jana Sanskriti, a small political theater troupe, founded in the nineteen-eighties and still going strong. Da Costa effectively shows how art meshes with politics as the Jana Sanskriti players offer trenchant critiques of corruption, oppression and "minimal regard" for rural lives and livelihoods at local, national and global levels. Da Costa's persuasive counterargument for the intrinsic worth of these lives is invaluable. The compelling and articulate voices transmitted here, not just of the engaged actors but of their reflective audiences, are at times so acute and emotionally wrenching that detached academics will read this book at their peril."

---Ann Grodzins Gold, Professor of Religion and Anthropology, Syracuse University

“This brilliant book is packed with insights, is elegantly written and meticulously researched. ... *Development Dramas* documents the ongoing dispossession of meanings and reimagines development and political action by taking the labour of meaning making seriously. ... In her methodology she is, of course, drawing on the profound insight expressed in the feminist aphorism ‘the personal is the political.’”

---Karin Kapadia, Associate, Oxford University. *Progress in Development Studies*. 12(2&3). 2012.

“This fascinating ethnography of political action through the lens of political theatre breathes and brings new meaning into our conceptualizations of ‘development’. ... *Development Dramas* is brilliant particularly in the manner in which it has theorized, revisited and critiqued important works and received concepts in the light of field information.”

--- Padmini Swaminathan, Professor of Development Studies, Madras Institute of Development Studies, *The Book Review*, July 2010.

### **Reviews of Development Dramas**

- |      |  |
|------|--|
| 2013 | Eva Osterlind, Centre for Teaching and Learning in the Humanities, Stockholm University, Sweden for Research. <i>Research in Drama Education</i> . |
| 2013 | Sruti Bala (Assistant Professor, University of Amsterdam) for <i>Research in Drama Education</i> . 18(1): 99.                                      |
| 2012 | Karin Kapadia (Associate Professor, Oxford University) for <i>Progress in Development Studies</i> . 12 (2/3): 255-257.                             |
| 2010 | Padmini Swaminathan (Professor, Madras Institute of Development Studies, India) for <i>The Book Review</i> , July 2010.                            |

### **Edited Books**

- |      |  |
|------|--|
| 2010 | <i>Scripting Power: Jana Sanskriti, On and Offstage</i> . Kolkata: Camp.                   |
| 2011 | Second Edition of <i>Scripting Power: Jana Sanskriti, On and Offstage</i> . Kolkata: Camp. |

### **Translated Books**

- |      |  |
|------|--|
| 2009 | <u><i>From Bengali to English: Where We Stand: Five Plays from the Repertoire of Jana Sanskriti</i></u> , Translated by Dia Da Costa, Kolkata: Camp. |
|------|--|

### Special Issue of Scholarly Journals (Guest Editor)

- 2019      *Cultural Production under Multiple Colonialisms*. For the journal, *Cultural Studies*. Based on SSHRC-funded workshop, *Reimagining Creative Economy: Transnational Histories, Regional Struggles, Local Practices*.
- 2010      Relocating Culture in Development and Development in Culture, *Third World Quarterly*, 31 (4).

### Articles in Scholarly Journals

- 2019      'Introduction: Cultural Production under Multiple Colonialisms'. For *Cultural Studies*. 33(3). 1-27.
- 2019      'Eating Heritage: Caste, Colonialism, and the Contestation of *adivasi* Creativity.' For *Cultural Studies*. 33(3).
- 2016      'Cruel Pessimism and Waiting for Belonging: Towards a Global Political Economy of Affect'. *Cultural Studies*. 30(1): 1-23.
- 2015      'Sentimental capitalism in contemporary India: Art, Heritage, and Development in Ahmedabad, Gujarat', in *Antipode: A Radical Journal of Geography*. 47(1): 74-97.
- 2013      'The 'Rule of Experts' in Making a Dynamic Micro-Insurance Industry in India' *Journal of Peasant Studies*. 40(5): 845-865.
- 2012      'Learning from Labour: The Space and Work of Activist Theatre' in *Contemporary South Asia*. 20(1): 119-133.
- 2010      'Introduction: Relocating Culture in Development and Development in Culture' in *Third World Quarterly*, 31(4): 501-522.
- 2010      'Subjects of Struggle: Theatre as Space of Political Economy' in *Third World Quarterly* 31(4): 617-635.
- 2008      "'Spoiled Sons" and "Sincere Daughters": Schooling, Security, and Empowerment in rural West Bengal, India' in *Signs: Journal of Women and Culture* 33(2): 283-308.
- 2008      'Tensions of Neo-liberal Development: State Discourse and Dramatic Oppositions in West Bengal' in *Contributions to Indian Sociology* 41 (3): 287-320.
- 2007      'The Poverty of the Global Order' (with Philip D. McMichael—second author). *Globalizations* 4(4): 588 – 602.

- 2007 'There's a Devil on Wayamba Beach: Social Dramas of Development and Citizenship in Northwest Sri Lanka' (with Cynthia M Caron—first author). *Journal of African and Asian Studies* 42(5): 415-445.
- 2004 'Re-imagining Community: Scripting Power and Changing the Subject through Jana Sanskriti's Political Theatre in Rural North India' (as Dia Mohan) *Journal of Contemporary Ethnography*. 33(2): 178-217.
- 2004 'Jana Sanskriti's Theatre and Political Practice in Rural Bengal: The Making of Popular Culture' (as Dia Mohan) *South Asian Popular Culture*. 4(1): 39-53.

### Book Chapters

- 2017 Dia Da Costa (first author) and Richa Nagar (second author), 'Theatre, Hunger, Politics: Beginning a Conversation' in Victoria Lawson and Sarah Elwood (eds.) *Relational Poverty Politics: (un)thinkable forms, struggles, possibilities*. University of Georgia Press, Geographies of Justice and Social Transformation Book Series.
- 2016 'Liberating Development from the Rule of an Episteme' in Dominique Caouette/UMontreal and Dip Kapoor/Univ of Alberta (Eds.) *Beyond Development and Globalization: Social Movement & Critical Perspectives Reader*. New York: Zed Books. pp. 187-204.
- 2013 'Laughing at the Enemy: Rethinking Critiques of Communal Political Violence in India' in Jackie Smith and Ernesto Verdeja (eds), *Globalization, Social Movements, and Peacebuilding*. Syracuse University Press. pp. 69-93.
- 2012 'Performing and Politicizing Education in West Bengal' in Dip Kapoor, Bijoy Barua, and Al-Karim Datto (eds). *Globalization, Culture, and Education in South Asia: Critical Excursions*. Palgrave MacMillan. pp. 155-170.
- 2010 'Introduction: Jana Sanskriti's Optimism of the Will and Intellect' in *Scripting Power: Jana Sanskriti, On and Offstage*. Kolkata: Camp. pp. 9-32.
- 2010 'Contesting Liquor Production and Material Distress in Rural India' in Philip McMichael (ed.) *Contesting Development: Critical Struggles for Social Change* London and New York: Routledge. pp 17-32.
- 2009 'Introduction' in Sanjoy Ganguly, *Where We Stand: Five Plays from the Repertoire of Jana Sanskriti*, Kolkata: Camp, pp. 9-20.

- 2007 'Mirrors of Value?: Advertising and Political Theatre in the Hegemonic Constructions of Women in India' in Sudhanva Deshpande (ed) *Theatre of the Streets* New Delhi: Jana Natya Manch. pp. 132-157.

## Book Reviews

- 2017 New Subaltern Politics: Reconceptualizing Hegemony and Resistance in India. Edited by Alf Gunvald Nilsen and Srila Roy. New Delhi: Oxford University Press. For the journal, *Contributions to Indian Sociology*. 51(2): 273-276.
- 2017 Acting Up: Gender and Theatre in India, 1979 Onwards. By A. Mangai. New Delhi: Leftword Books. For the journal, *International Feminist Journal of Politics*.
- 2015 Theorizing NGOs: States, feminisms and neoliberalism Edited by Victoria Bernal and Inderpal Grewal. Durham, N.C.: Duke University Press: 2014. For the journal, *Journal of Colonialism and Colonial History*. 16 (3).
- 2015 Dreamzones: Anticipating Capitalism and Development in India by Jamie Cross for the journal *Antipode: A Radical Journal in Geography*. Available online at: [https://radicalantipode.files.wordpress.com/2015/02/book-review\\_da-costa-on-cross.pdf](https://radicalantipode.files.wordpress.com/2015/02/book-review_da-costa-on-cross.pdf)
- 2013 Drama for Development: Cultural Translation and Social Change by Andrew Skuse, Marie Gillespie, and Gerry Power (eds) for the journal *Contributions to Indian Sociology*. 46(3): 422-424.
- 2012 Timepass: Youth, Class and the Politics of Waiting in India by Craig Jeffrey for the journal *Environment and Planning D: Society and Space*. Available online at: <http://societyandspace.com/reviews/reviews-archive/craig-jeffrey-timepass-youth-class-and-politics-of-waiting-by-dia-da-costa/>
- 2011 Civil Society, Democratization and the Search for Human Security (Duncan McDuaie-Ra) *Asian Studies Review*.
- 2011 Indian Feminisms: Law, Patriarchies, and Violence in India (Geetanjali Gangoli) *Feminist Review*.
- 2006 Beyond Lines of Control: Politics and Performance on the Disputed Borders of Ladakh (Ravina Aggarwal) *Modern Drama* 49(2): 245-8.
- 2003 In the Time of Trees and Sorrows: Nature, Power, and Memory in Rajasthan (Ann Grodzins Gold). *Seminar*. #530: October. 67-70.

## **INTERVIEWS**

- 2019 'The Perils and Possibilities of Creative Economy: A Conversation,' By Richa Nagar and Sarah Saddler. *Agitate!: An Anti-Disciplinary Agitation*. Available online at: <http://agitation.reclaim.hosting/article/the-perils-and-possibilities-of-creative-economy-a-conversation/>
- 2017 'Whose creativity counts in the creative economy?' By Scott Lingley. *Illuminate*. Faculty of Education, University of Alberta, April 24, 2017. Available online at: <http://illuminate.ualberta.ca/content/whose-creativity-counts-creative-economy>

## **PUBLIC SCHOLARSHIP**

- 2018 'Caste-Ignorant Worlds of Progressive Academics: Academically-Transmitted Caste Innocence' in Raitot Webzine. August 24. Available online at: <http://www.raiot.in/academically-transmitted-caste-innocence/>
- 2018 'Teach In: Education for the Justice of Indigenous Peoples.' University of Alberta. March 22, 2018. Available at: [https://www.kaltura.com/index.php/extwidget/preview/partner\\_id/2169871/uiconf\\_id/36186922/entry\\_id/0\\_bspo6ox3/embed/auto?&flashvars\[streamerType\]=auto](https://www.kaltura.com/index.php/extwidget/preview/partner_id/2169871/uiconf_id/36186922/entry_id/0_bspo6ox3/embed/auto?&flashvars[streamerType]=auto)
- 2017 "Changing Perceptions of Criminality Through Cinema." *The Wire*. Sep 1. Available online at: <https://thewire.in/172695/dakxin-chhara-bajrange-denotified-tribes/>
- 2017 "'Heritage City" Ahmedabad was built through violence and exclusion.' *The Wire*. August 11. Available online at: <https://thewire.in/167002/ahmedabad-heritage-city-violence-exclusion/>
- 2017 Webinar Panel: 'Peace Education and Education for Peace' (with Drs. Sophie Yohani, Anna Kirova, and Carolyn Parkes). Part of the *Creating Welcoming Learning Communities* Webinar Series co-curated by Drs. Sophie Yohani and Anna Kirova. Available online at: <http://welcominglearning.ualberta.ca/recordings>
- 2016 'On Indian Exceptionalism and Kashmir'. *Kafila*. 11 December. Available online at: <https://kafila.online/2016/12/11/on-indian-exceptionalism-and-kashmir-dia-da-costa/>

## **INVITED PRESENTATIONS**

- 2019 'Caste-ing Intersectionality under Multiple Colonialisms.' *Research at the Intersections of Gender Launch*. University of Alberta. March 28.

- 2019 'What is intersectionality,' *Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Week*. University of Alberta. March 20.
- 2018 Presenter, 'Ethnography: Fictions, Feminisms, and Vulnerability'. *Feminisms Unbound Series*. Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Boston. Nov 28.
- 2018 Presenter, Roundtable on 'Race, Indigeneity and the Question of Intersectionality.' University of Alberta. Oct 4.
- 2017 Presenter, Panel Discussion on 'Seeing a Research Project through its Struggles', Research Day. *University of Alberta*. March 16, 2017.
- 2017 Presenter, Panel Discussion on 'Funding your book project with a SSHRC grant'. *University of Alberta*. February 8, 2017.
- 2016 Presenter, Roundtable for Teach-In, 'After Trump'. University of Alberta. Dec 2, 2016.
- 2015 'Sentimental Capitalism: A Critique of Creative Economy and Development Discourse in India' *Fluid States: Performances of Unknowing*. Performances Studies International. 27 Feb-1 March, 2015. New Delhi, India.
- 2015 Presenter, 'Citizens in Search of Citizenship: Activist Performance Contesting the Patronage of Stigma and Survival in Gujarat' at Nehru Memorial Museum Library, 24 Feb, 2015, New Delhi, India.
- 2014 'An ideology for life?: Locating vitality, endurance, and affect in political activism'. South Asia and Global Studies Seminar Series, University of Minnesota, Twin Cities, March 5.
- 2013 'The Good Women of Chharanagar: activist performance in contemporary Gujarat'. School of Arts and Aesthetics, Jawaharlal Nehru University. New Delhi. October 30, 2013.
- 2013 'An ideology for life: how Janam interrupts sentimental capitalism in contemporary India' *Studio Safdar*, New Delhi. October 29, 2013.
- 2013 'Sentimental Capitalism in contemporary India: Cultural Production in Development Policy, 1947-present'. *Institute of Human Development*. New Delhi. October 22, 2013.
- 2012 'A Hunger Called Theatre: Work, Activism and Affect among Postcolonial Subjects'. Invited Seminar for Studies in National and International Development, Queen's University. Kingston, Ontario, Canada. November 1, 2012.

- 2011 'Learning from Labour through the Work of Activist Theatre' York University, September 29, 2011 (cancelled due to family emergency).
- 2011 'The Work of Theatre in an Age of Precarious Labour', Special Session Lecture for *British Association of South Asian Studies*, Southampton, April 11-13.
- 2009 'Looking for the Enemy in Plays and Politics of the Left in India' Workshop on *Globalization, Social Movements, and Peacebuilding* led by Jackie Smith and Ernesto Verdeja, October 29-31, Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies and the Center for the Study of Social Movements, University of Notre Dame, IN.
- 2009 'The Snake-Goddess and her Antidote: Compelling Collectivity Against Inequality and Uncertainty' June 15, *Indian Institute of Management*, Ahmedabad, India.
- 2008 'Antidotes: Life Insurance, Healthcare Systems, and Snake Goddesses in Rural India' November 19, Department of Sociology Weekly Seminar Series, Queen's University, Kingston.
- 2006 "'Spoiled Sons" and "Sincere Daughters": Schooling, Security, and Empowerment in rural West Bengal, India' February 7<sup>th</sup>, *South Asia Seminar Series* at Syracuse University.
- 2006 'Mirrors of Value: Advertising Fairness Creams in Neoliberal India' in Diversity Colloquium Panel on *Engaging Differences* Colloquium on Diversity and Civic Responsibility in the American Academy, September 29, Hobart and William Smith Colleges, Geneva, NY, USA.
- 2006 'The Bhopal Case and Corporate Social Responsibility' organized by the Progressive Students Union, Hobart and William Smith Colleges, Geneva, NY, USA.
- 2005 'Education as Means of Representation in Rural Bengal: A Critique of the First Pratiche Report, 2002' October 15-16, Conference *Religious Fragmentation and Economic Development in South Asia*, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY, USA.
- 2004 'Playing Scripts and Scripting Plays: Theater of the Oppressed in Rural North India' November 4, Friday Faculty Lunch Talk. Hobart and William Smith Colleges, Geneva, NY, USA.
- 2004 'Jana Sanskriti's theatre in rural Bengal' for a class on *Mass Communications* July 31, Jamia Milia Islamia, New Delhi, India
- 2004 'Jana Sanskriti's theatre in rural Bengal' July 27, for an audience of actors, trade union workers, University of Delhi academics, and students, New Delhi, India

- 2003 'The "Theatre of the Oppressed" in a Communist State: Jana Sanskriti in West Bengal, India' February 24, *South Asia Program Seminar Series*, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY, USA.

### **CONFERENCE AND WORKSHOP PARTICIPATION**

- 2019 'Caste-ing Intersectionality under Multiple Colonialisms.' *Intersectional Echoes: Cross-Generational Practices and Knowledge Production*. University of Southern California, Dornsife. Los Angeles. March 6-8.
- 2018 Roundtable Participant, 'Contesting Creativity, Creative Contestations: Reimagining Possibilities Under Multiple Colonialisms.' *Critical Ethnic Studies Association*. Vancouver, Canada. June 21-24.
- 2017 'The everyday terror of caste supremacy' as a Roundtable Participant on a Presidential Session. 'Relearning Solidarities: Challenges from Dalit Feminisms', *National Women Studies Association*. Nov 16-19, 2017. Baltimore, USA.
- 2017 Roundtable Participant. 'Boycotting Settler Colonial Exceptionalism/Refusing Settler Irresponsibility', *American Studies Association*. Nov 9-12, 2017.
- 2017 Co-Organizer (with Alexandre Da Costa), SSHRC-funded workshop bringing together 16 national and international reputed scholars on the topic: 'Reimagining Creative Economy: Transnational Histories, Local Practices, Regional Struggles.' *University of Alberta*. April 27-29, 2017.
- 2017 Presenter, 'Eating Heritage'. 'Reimagining Creative Economy: Transnational Histories, Local Practices, Regional Struggles.' *University of Alberta*. April 27-29, 2017.
- 2016 Presenter, 'Radical Vulnerability in Chhara and Dene Praxis' *National Women's Studies Association*, Montreal. November 10, 2016.
- 2016 Panel Organizer and Presenter, 'Chhara performance in toxic Gujarat' on a panel entitled Feeling Other Histories: Culture and Performance in Anti-National Times', *South Asia Conference* in University of Wisconsin, Madison. October 21, 2016.
- 2016 Presenter, 'A transnational feminist approach to activist performance and the creative economy'. *Canadian Sociological Association. Congress of the Social Sciences and Humanities*. May 30, 2016.

- 2015 Roundtable Participant, 'Feeling the Chill: Self-Representing through Struggle in a Cold Academy' for *Canadian Women's Art History Initiative*. May 7-9. Kingston, ON.
- 2014 (declined due to research conflict) Roundtable Participant, 'Transnational Feminist Collaborations: Exploring Methodological Challenges.' In *National Women's Studies Association Conference*. San Juan, Puerto Rico. Nov 13-16.
- 2014 (cancelled due to illness) Roundtable Participant, 'Critical Reflections on International Peacebuilding and Globalization', for *International Studies Association*, Toronto. Organized by Jackie Smith and Ernesto Verdeja (Participants include Valentine Moghadam, Roger MacGinty, Mary Kaldor, Isaac Kamola, and Cecelia Lynch).
- 2013 (declined due to conflicting research commitment) Presenter, 'The Work of Theatre in an Age of Precarious Labour' at the *Feminist Pre-Conference, Annual South Asia Conference*, Madison, Wisconsin, USA.
- 2012 Panel Organizer, *Learning from Labour* at the Annual South Asia Conference, Madison, Wisconsin, USA. October 11-14, 2012.
- 2012 Presenter, 'A Hunger called Theatre: Affect and Activism among Postcolonial Subjects' at the Annual South Asia Conference, Madison, Wisconsin, USA. October 11-14, 2012.
- 2012 Discussant, for a panel on Rural Modernities at the Annual South Asia Conference, Madison, Wisconsin, USA. October 11-14, 2012.
- 2012 Panel Organizer, *The Political Economy of Affects and Belonging* at the Cultural Studies 'Crossroads' Conference, Paris, June 2012.
- 2012 Presenter, 'Cruel optimism among a surplus population of "born criminals"' for a panel on *The Political Economy of Affects and Belonging* at the Cultural Studies 'Crossroads' Conference, Paris, June 2012.
- 2011 'The State of Labour and the Labour of Remaking the State in Neoliberal India' for a panel on *Cultures of the State, the State of Culture* at the Canadian Historical Association, Congress, Fredericton, New Brunswick, May 2011.
- 2011 'A Certain Future for Indian Finance and Knowledge: Dispossession and Development in the Rural Insurance Sector' for a panel on *Financialization and the Nature of Uneven Development* at International Studies Association, Montreal, Quebec, 16-19 March, 2011.
- 2009 'Bringing Indian Theatre to Studies of Development and Democracy in Canada' Workshop on Global Perspectives: Practical Approaches to Internationalizing

the Curriculum'. April 27, Centre for Teaching and Learning, Queen's University, Kingston, ON, Canada

- 2009 'Spaces of Hope in the Ruins of Rule' *International Studies Association Annual Convention*, February 15-19, New York, NY, USA
- 2008 'Antidotes: Snake bites and Snake-Goddesses' on a panel entitled 'Spirited Developments'. Organizer of panel and Presenter. *Annual South Asia Conference*. October 15-18, Madison, WI, USA
- 2008 'Political Theatre'. *Canadian Association of Theatre Research*, Roundtable on *Applied Theatre*. May 31-June 3, Congress, Vancouver, BC, Canada
- 2008 "'Have they Disabled Us?": Liquor and the Grammars of Distress and Distribution in rural West Bengal' *Canadian Association for the Study of International Development*, Organized and Presenter on Performing Values, Materializing Choice. June 5-7, Congress, Vancouver, BC, Canada
- 2008 'Antidotes: Snake bites and Snake-Goddesses' *Canadian Sociology and Anthropology Association*, Panel on *Sociological Theory*. June 3-6, Congress, Vancouver, BC, Canada
- 2008 'The Work of Jana Sanskriti's Rural Political Theatre in India's Development Dramas' *American Sociological Association*, Panel on *Cultural Studies and Cultural Production*. August 1-4, Boston, MA, USA
- 2007 "'Have they Disabled Us?": Liquor and the Grammars of Distress and Distribution in rural West Bengal' Conference entitled *Neoliberalism in Contention: A Social Movement Analysis*, *Robert and Ruth Polson Institute for Global Development*, September 28, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY, USA
- 2007 'From Primitive Accumulation to "Accumulation by Dispossession"?: Debating the New Imperialism' *International Studies Association* 28 February – 3 March, Chicago, IL, USA
- 2006 'Mirrors of Value: Advertising and Political Theatre in the Hegemonic Constructions of Women in India' *LeftWord Young Scholars' Seminar Rich Nation Poor People: Critical Perspectives on the Neoliberal Regime in India*, 4-6 April, 2006 Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, India
- 2006 'The Poverty of the Global Order' with Philip D McMichael, *International Studies Association*, March 24, San Diego, CA, USA
- 2003 'Performance as a Project of Persuasion: Representation as Reality in the Political Theatre of Jana Sanskriti in rural Bengal' *Journal of South Asian Popular Culture Conference*, August, 21-23, Fairfield University, NJ, USA

- 2002 “‘Why Can’t I Be Someone’s Future?’” *American Anthropological Association*, November, 20-24, New Orleans, LA, USA
- 2002 ‘Exploring Rituals of Reversal: Marxist Aesthetics and Folk Navigations’ *Annual South Asian Conference*, October 10-13, Madison, WI, USA
- 2002 ‘Inter-disciplinary methodological and conceptual issues in my dissertation research’ Einaudi Center workshop on *Comparative Visualities*, May 8, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY, USA
- 2002 ‘From the Kitchen to the Stage: Women in the ‘theatre of the oppressed’ movement in India’ Conference on *Women and Movement* at March 3, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY, USA

### **RESEARCH WORKING GROUPS**

- 2017-present Research at the Intersections of Gender. KULE Research Cluster working on one of three Signature Areas for University of Alberta, “Research at the Intersections of Gender”.
- 2015-2017 ‘Relational Poverty Politics’ Participant in book project for Relational Poverty Network and the University of Washington. Led by Victoria Lawson and Sarah Elwood.
- 2009-2011 ‘Globalization, Social Movements, and Peacebuilding’ Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies and the Center for the Study of Social Movements, University of Notre Dame, led by Professor Jackie Smith and Professor Ernesto Verdeja.
- 2002 – 2010 Social Movements Research Working Group, *Robert and Ruth Polson Institute for Global Development*, Cornell University, led by Professor Philip D. McMichael.
- 2005 – 2008 ‘Development and Human Security: Beyond the Contradictions of Contemporary Global Governance’ *Toda Institute for Global Peace and Policy Research* led by Professor Heloise Weber (University of Queensland).

### **GRANTS**

- 2018 Under Review. SSHRC Insight Grant ‘Anti-Oppressive Education among South Asian Canadians.’
- 2018 ‘Anti-Oppressive Education and South Asian Canadian Art Practices of Reconciliation.’ *Killam Cornerstone Grant*. University of Alberta. \$36,016.

- 2018 'Anti-Oppressive Education among South Asian Canadians: An Oral History of the Minquon Panchayat.' *Support for the Advancement of Scholarship*. University of Alberta. \$7000.
- 2017 (Collaborator), "Building Research at the Intersections of Gender." *Kule Institute of Advanced Studies*. Research Cluster Grant. University of Alberta. (\$90,000).
- 2017 (PI) Distinguished Visitor's Fund, VP Research Office, University of Alberta. For Dakxin Bajrange (Chhara film-maker and Theatre Director). Edmonton, Feb 2-10, 2018. (\$7420).
- 2016 (Co-PI, Alexandre Da Costa) 'Reimagining Creative Economy: Transnational Histories, Local Practices, Regional Struggles,' *Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada Connection Grant*. (\$24,438) (File no. 611-2016-0001).
- 2016 (Co-PI, Alexandre Da Costa) 'Reimagining Creative Economy: Transnational Histories, Local Practices, Regional Struggles,' *Kule Institute of Advanced Studies*, University of Alberta. (\$2,000).
- 2014 'Transnational histories of indigeneity: Art and Activism'. Grant from Four Directions Aboriginal Students Centre, Queen's University. (\$500)
- 2014 'Transnational histories of indigeneity: Art and Activism'. Grant from Studies in National and International Development Seminar Series, Queen's University. (\$500)
- 2014 'Transnational histories of indigeneity: Art and Activism'. Grant from Agnes Etherington Arts Centre, Queen's University. (\$500).
- 2013 (SSHRC 4a) 'Raising insurance awareness: Insurance, social protection, and risk in agrarian India' (external), Social Science and Humanities Research Council, Canada. Insight Development Grant.
- 2013 'Raising insurance awareness: Insurance, social protection, and risk in agrarian India' (internal), Senate Advisory Research Committee, Queen's University. (\$9926).
- 2010 'The Work of Theatre in an Age of Precarious Labour', *Social Science and Humanities Research Council, Insight Development Grant* (formerly Research Development Initiative) (\$32,770) (File no. 820-2010-0106).
- 2010 'The Work of Theatre in an Age of Precarious Labour' Queen's University Senate Advisory Research Council grant (\$6473)
- 2009 'The Work of Theatre in the Development of Democracy in India' Queen's University Advisory Research Council grant (\$8140)

- 2009 'Liberation Theatre in Emerging Economies', Queen's University Centre for Teaching and Learning. Community Service Learning Grant (\$2500)  
Used as matching funds for bringing members of Indian theatre troupe Jana Sanskriti as visiting artists to Queen's University (February 22- March 22, 2009).
- 2009 Queen's University Centre for Teaching and Learning. Teaching and Enhancement Learning Grant (\$620).  
Used as matching funds for bringing members of Indian theatre troupe Jana Sanskriti as visiting artists to Queen's University (February 22- March 22, 2009).
- 2008 Department of Cultural Studies, Queen's University. Matching Funds for Visiting Artists in Residence (\$500) for bringing members of Indian theatre troupe Jana Sanskriti as visiting artists to Queen's University (February 22- March 22, 2009).
- 2008 Queens University Principal's Development Fund grant for Visiting Artists in Residence (\$16,500) for bringing members of Indian theatre troupe Jana Sanskriti as visiting artists to Queens University (February 22- March 22, 2009).
- 2008 Queen's University Office of Research Services award for category 4a SSHRC Standard Research Grant applicants (\$5000).
- 2008 Queen's University Advisory Research Council grant (\$2000)
- 2008 Queen's University Conference Travel grant (\$500) for Congress 2008
- 2007 Queen's University Conference Travel grant (\$500) for Conference entitled Neoliberalism in Contention: A Social Movement Analysis, *Robert and Ruth Polson Institute for Global Development*, Cornell University
- 2006 Hobart and William Smith Colleges Faculty Research Grant (\$2500)
- 2006 Hobart and William Smith Colleges Faculty Research Assistant Support Grant (\$500)
- 2005 Hobart and William Smith Colleges Faculty Research Grant (\$2500)
- 1998-2003 Cornell University Tuition Fellowship 1998-2003
- 2003 Robert and Ruth Polson Institute for Global Development, Dissertation Write-Up Grant (\$3000)

- 2002 Taraknath Das Foundation Dissertation Grant, Southern Asian Institute, Columbia University (\$3000)
- 2000-2001 Ford Foundation Interdisciplinary Training Grant on Nationalism, Citizenship, and Identity Formation
- 2000-2001 Mario Einaudi International Dissertation Grant (\$3000)
- 2001 Beatrice Brown Dissertation Research Grant (\$200)
- 2000-2001 Dissertation Research Grant from the Department of Rural Sociology (\$1500)
- 1999 Mario Einaudi International Summer Travel Grant (\$3500)
- 1997-1998 British Chevening/University of Warwick (Open) Scholarship for a Masters in Sociology of Education

### **TEACHING & GRADUATE SUPERVISION**

**University of Alberta, Edmonton, AB, Canada**

#### **Undergraduate Courses:**

- |          |   |
|----------|---|
| EDPS 411 | Cross-Cultural Studies in Education     |
| EDPS 422 | International Development and Education |

#### **Graduate Courses:**

- |          |   |
|----------|---|
| EDPS 564 | Education and Social Change                       |
| EDPS 501 | Feminist Theories and Epistemologies              |
| EDPS 681 | Research Frameworks and Qualitative Methodologies |

#### **Graduate Supervision:**

- 2019** **Advisor**, for **Banazeer Yaqoob**, M.Ed. Educational Policy Studies, University of Alberta.
- Advisor**, for **Annette Wentworth**, M.Ed. Educational Policy Studies, University of Alberta. **(Completed)**
- Master's Thesis Supervisor**, for **Anita Khakh**, M. Ed. Educational Policy Studies, University of Alberta.
- Master's Thesis Supervisor**, for **Areej Alshammiry**, M. Ed. Educational Policy Studies, University of Alberta.
- Doctoral Supervisor**, for **Gillian Robinson**, Ph.D. Educational Policy Studies.
- Doctoral Co-Supervisor**, for **Alleson Mason**. Ph.D. Educational Policy Studies.
- 2019** **Internal External**, for **Shama Rangwala**. Ph.D. English and Film Studies.

- 2018**      **Advisor**, for **Banazeer Yaqoob**, M.Ed. Educational Policy Studies, University of Alberta.  
**Advisor**, for **Annette Wentworth**, M.Ed. Educational Policy Studies, University of Alberta.  
**Master's Thesis Supervisor**, for **Anita Khakh**, M. Ed. Educational Policy Studies, University of Alberta.  
**Master's Thesis Supervisor**, for **Areej Alshammiry**, M. Ed. Educational Policy Studies, University of Alberta.  
**Back-up doctoral Supervisor**, for **Irene Wolfstone**, Ph.D. Educational Policy Studies, University of Alberta.
- 2018**      **Internal External: Sean O'Brien**, 'Precarity and the Historicity of the Present: American Literature and Culture from the Long Boom to the Long Downturn.' Department of English and Film Studies. University of Alberta. March 28.
- 2017**      **Advisor**, for **Annette Wentworth**, M.Ed. Educational Policy Studies, University of Alberta.  
**Advisor**, for **Anita Khakh**, M.Ed. Educational Policy Studies, University of Alberta.  
**Advisor**, for **Banazeer Yaqoob**, M.Ed. Educational Policy Studies, University of Alberta.  
**Advisor**, for **Zahra Jafarova**, M.Ed. Educational Policy Studies, University of Alberta.  
**Back-up Supervisor**, for **Irene Wolfstone**, Ph.D. Educational Policy Studies, University of Alberta.
- 2017**      **Internal External: Pradeep Sangapala**, 'The Impact of Colonial and Nationalist Thoughts on the Postcolonial Spatial Thinking in Sri Lanka: The Planning and Building of Anuradhapura New City. Urban and Regional Planning Program, University of Alberta, April 12.
- 2017**      **Internal External: Candy Khan**, 'Embodiment of Workplace Experiences in Paid Employment'. Department of Educational Policy Studies, University of Alberta. March 15.

**Queen's University, Kingston, ON, Canada**

**Undergraduate Courses:**

DEVS 240	Culture and Development (Department Core Course, 150 cap)
DEVS 350	Gender and Development (75 cap)
DEVS 395	Postcolonial Theories and Development (50 cap)
DEVS 497	Education: A Contradictory Resource (15 cap)
DEVS 321	Development Dramas (50 cap)

**Undergraduate Supervision:**

- 2011 Sara Munsch: Problematizing the representation of floods in Pakistan. Queen's University.
- 2011 Nicole Buscema: Critical analysis of Canadian undergraduate involvement in health and development work in Kenya, Queen's University.

**Graduate Courses:**

DEVS 802	Cultural Politics of Development (Department Core Course)
DEVS 807	Education: A Contradictory Resource
CUST 800	Popular Culture, Populist Capital (Independent Study 2012)
SOC 800	Civil Society and its Discontents (Independent Study 2009)

**Graduate Supervision at Queen's University:**

- 2014 –2015 **Supervisor**, for Ph.D. for Adam Saifer, 'Questioning Arts as Elixir discourse in Canadian Community Development Initiatives' Cultural Studies Program. Queen's University.
- Under my supervision, Adam received the Ontario Graduate Scholarship and the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council award for his Ph.D. research.
- 2015-2018 **Committee Member** for Adam Saifer since I left Queen's University in June 2015. Completed.
- 2013-2014 **Supervisor**, for M.A. Major Research Paper **for Bakht Arif**, 'Political Theatre in the Shadow of Authoritarian Rule: the case of Pakistan'. Global Development Studies, Queen's University.
- 2012 –2014 **Supervisor**, for M.A. **for Smita Mitra**, 'Is Folk Art a Common Property Resource: The Case of Bauls in Bengal?'. Cultural Studies Program, Queen's University.
- 2011-2016 **Supervisor** for Ph.D. **Meaghan Frauts**, 'Cultural Politics of Resilience in Kingston, Jamaica'. Cultural Studies Program, Queen's University. OGS (2012) and SSHRC (2013) awarded project. Completed.
- Under my supervision, Meaghan Frauts received the Ontario Graduate Scholarship and the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council award for her research.
- 2010 **Supervisor** for M.A. one-year Major Research Paper for **Lara Purvis**, 'The significance of neoliberalism and evolving gender roles in transactional sex relationships in post-apartheid South Africa' Department of Global Development Studies, Queen's University.

- 2009-2013 **Supervisor** for Ph.D. **Jonathan Owen**, '*India as Slum, India as City: Globalization, Bollywood and the Branding of India*'. Cultural Studies Program, Queen's University.
- Under my supervision, Jonathan Owens received a Douglas Sheppard Wilson award (2009-2010) from Queen's University for his Ph.D. project.
- 2014 **Committee Member**, for Ph.D. for **Sunny Kerr** 'Making Living: Artist Run Venture in Neoliberal Affective Communities'. Cultural Studies, Queen's University.
- 2013 - 2015 **Committee Member**, for Ph.D. for **A.W. Lee** 'Paris is Burning South Bronx: An auto-ethnographic research-creation and intervention into race, gender, sexuality, and nation through camp irony and hip-hop'. Cultural Studies, Queen's University.
- 2011 **Committee Member** for M.A. thesis for **Marley Budreau**, 'Constituting Governable Subjects: Foucault and Governmentality's Account of 'Governing through Freedom' and the Case of the Indigenous Populations of Canada' Department of Sociology, Queen's University, March 28.
- 2009-16 **Committee Member** for Ph.D. **Jeffrey Barbeau**, 'Biopolitics, the Common, and Affect' Cultural Studies Program, Queen's University.
- 2008-12 **Committee Member** for Ph.D. **Andrea Hunter**, 'Digital Humanities', Department of Sociology, Queen's University.
- 2011-12 **Committee Member** for M.A. one-year Major Research Paper for Maralyne Narayan, 'Transnational Agencies and the Empower Foundation: how does the discourse of transnational agencies impact this grassroots organization of Thai sex workers?' Department of Global Development Studies, Queen's University.
- 2010-11 **Committee Member** for M.A. one-year Major Research Paper for Jessica Veaudry, 'Who Speaks within Development Research' Department of Global Development Studies, Queen's University.
- 2016 **Internal-External Examiner** for Sanober Umar, Ph.D. candidacy exam. 'Mapping the borders of 'Communal Violence' and Identity in Postcolonial India.' January 28.
- 2009 - 2013 **Internal-External Examiner** for Ph.D. for Reeju Ray, Placing the Khasi Jaintiah Hills: Sovereignty, Custom and Narratives of Continuity'. History, Queen's University.
- 2011 **Internal-External Examiner**, for Ph.D. for Davina M. DesRoches, 'Changing Cityscapes, Museums, and the Conservation of Working Class Heritage'. Department of Sociology, Queen's University.

External Examiner Undergraduate:

2008 Cristina Bain, Department of Sociology and Anthropology, *Hobart and William Smith Colleges*. 'Heroic Suffering: The Gender Identity Construction of Revolutionary Identities in Vietnamese Women'.

I was Cristina Bain's adviser at Hobart and William Smith Colleges for three years. Under my supervision, Cristina Bain secured a Fulbright Fellowship. She is currently doing her Ph.D. at the Department of Sociology in University of Wisconsin, Madison.

**Hobart and William Smith Colleges, Geneva, NY, USA**Undergraduate Courses Taught:

SOC 100	Introduction to Sociology (40 cap)
SOC 240	Gender and Development (40 cap)
SOC 259	New Social Futures (40 cap)
WMNS 100	Introduction to Women's Studies (40 cap)
BIDIS 365	Dramatic Worlds of South Asia (40 cap)
SOC 330	Sociology of Art and Culture (25 cap)

Honors Research Supervised:

2006	Cristina Bain, 'Vietnamese and U.S. women in the military'
2006-07	Ayelet Cohen, 'Food ritual and hierarchy'
2006	Leanne Roncolato, 'Gender justice in Nicaragua and Kerala'
2005-06	Jennifer Thorne, 'Hospice movement in upstate NY'

**Cornell University, Ithaca, NY, USA**Undergraduate Courses Taught:

RSOC 261	Sociology of Sustainable Development
----------	--------------------------------------

**ADMINISTRATIVE DUTIES****University of Alberta**

Jan 2019-present Associate Director, Research at the Intersections of Gender, Signature Area, University of Alberta.

Fall 2016 - present Graduate Affairs Committee, Educational Policy Studies, University of Alberta

2017- 2018 Undergraduate Studies Committee, Educational Policy Studies, University of Alberta

### **Queen's University**

Winter 2014-2015 Graduate Committee, Global Development Studies, Queen's University

Fall 2010 – November 2011 Senate Advisory Research Committee, Queen's University

Since Fall 2007-June 2011 Representative for Global Development Studies on the Queen's University Faculty Association (QUFA)

Since Fall 2010-June 2011 Member of Cultural Studies Steering Committee, Cultural Studies Program

2010-2011 Member of the Chair's Advisory Committee, Department of Global Development Studies

Since 2009-June 2011 Graduate Committee, Department of Global Development Studies

Winter 2009-2010 Co-chair of Studies in National and International Development Weekly Seminar Series, Queen's University. Faculty level committee.

2008- 2009 Chair of the Workload Committee, Department of Global Development Studies

2008 – 2009 Renewal Tenure and Promotion Committee, Department of Global Development Studies

2007 Queen's Project for International Development, Member of the Advisory Council, University-level committee.

2007- 2008 Queen's Coalition Against Racial and Ethnic Discrimination, Advisor

### **Hobart and William Smith Colleges, Geneva, NY, USA**

2005–2007 Board Member New York State Independent College Consortium for Study in India (Bard, Skidmore, Hartwick, St. Lawrence, Hobart and William Smith, Hamilton Colleges)

- Chair of the Board (July 1, 2006 – 2007)
- Speaker in Orientation program for April 8, 2005 and April 1, 2006
- Planning and conceptualizing for Fall 2005 program
- Participation in board meetings

2006 –2007 Steering Committee Member, Fisher Center for the Study of Men and Women, Hobart and William Smith Colleges

- Raised funds to coordinate the tour of eight members of Indian theatre troupe Janam of U.S. university campuses (Hobart and William Smith Colleges, Smith College, Trinity College, Syracuse University, New York University, Berkeley, Michigan, Tulane and more).

2005- 2006 Construction of Peace Studies Program, Hobart and William Smith Colleges

## **PROFESSIONAL SERVICE**

### External Reviewer for Granting Bodies:

Assessor, Insight Grants, *Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada* (2012-13).

### External Reviewer for Scholarly Journals:

*Antipode* (2013, 2018)  
*Ethnography* (2012)  
*Contemporary South Asia* (2012, 2015)  
*Interventions: International Journal of Postcolonial Studies* (2011)  
*Journal of Peasant Studies* (2009)  
*Feminist Studies* (2009)  
*Journal of Research in Rural Education* (2008)  
*Modern Drama* (2006)  
*Gender, Place, and Culture* (2005)  
*Mobilizations* (2004)  
*Transformations* (2003)

### Association Membership

National Women's Studies Association  
American Studies Association  
Performance Studies International  
Canadian Sociological Association (including Socinet)  
Canadian Association for the Study of International Development