

DENISE MARIE NEPVEUX, PH.D.

Assistant Professor, Critical Disability Studies
School of Health Policy and Management, Faculty of Health, York University
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EDUCATION

Ph.D. in Disability Studies, May, 2009

University of Illinois at Chicago Interdisciplinary Doctoral Program in Disability Studies

PhD Thesis: "In the Same Soup": Marginality, Vulnerability and Belonging in the Life Stories of Disabled Women in Accra, Ghana

Supervisor: Carol J. Gill, Ph.D.

Master of Science (with Distinction) in Occupational Therapy, December, 1994

Washington University in St. Louis, Program in Occupational Therapy

Bachelor of Science (with High Honors) in Speech, May, 1988

Minor Concentration in Italian Language and Literature

University of Texas at Austin, College of Communication, Program in Communication Disorders

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

January 1, 2009 to present **Assistant Professor**, Graduate Program in Critical Disability Studies, School of Health Policy and Management, Faculties of Health and Graduate Studies, York University, Toronto

July 1, 2006 to December 31, 2008 **Lecturer**, Graduate Program in Critical Disability Studies, School of Health Policy and Management, Faculties of Health and Graduate Studies, York University, Toronto

May 1, 2004 to June 30, 2006 **Visiting Research Analyst, Chicago Center for Disability Research**
Department of Disability and Human Development, University of Illinois at Chicago

January to May 2006; January to May, 2005 **Teaching Asst., Qualitative Methods in Disability Research**
Department of Disability and Human Development, University of Illinois at Chicago

February to September 2004 **Occupational Therapist (part-time)**. Geropsychiatric Unit, Weiss Hospital, Chicago, Illinois

March to May 2004 **Research Assistant, Home Modifications Study**. Department of Occupational Therapy, University of Illinois at Chicago

January 2003 to January 2004 **Dissertation Fieldwork in Accra, Ghana, funded by Fulbright Fellowship**

September 2000 to September 2002 **Visiting Research Analyst, Center on Emergent Disability**
Department of Disability and Human Development, University of Illinois at Chicago

May to October 2000 **Interviewer, Alzheimer's Disease and Family Study**. Institute for Health Services Research and Policy Studies, Northwestern University

September 1999 to May 2000 **Research Assistant, Domestic Violence and Disability Study.**

Department of Occupational Therapy, University of Illinois at Chicago

September 1999 to December 1999 **Teaching Assistant, Psychosocial Interventions Course**

Department of Occupational Therapy, University of Illinois at Chicago

March 1995 to December 2002 **Occupational Therapist.** Rush North Shore Medical Center, Skokie, Illinois

July 1990 to July 1991 **Teacher of English as a Second Language,** Japan Exchange and Teaching Program, Oita City, Japan

January to July 1990 **New Careers Program Coordinator,** Student Pugwash USA, Washington, D.C.

March 1989 to January 1990. **Legislative Correspondent / Staff Assistant,** United States Senate Special Committee on Aging, Washington, D.C.

GRANTS AND AWARDS

ACADEMIC AWARDS AND HONORS

- Postdoctoral Fellowship in Disability Studies, Syracuse University, 2010-2012
- UIC Chancellor's Student Service Award, 2006
- Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges, 2006
- Mellon Fellow, Future of Minority Studies Project, Cornell University, 2005
- Rue Bucher Memorial Award for Qualitative Studies in Social Process, 2004
- J. William Fulbright Fellowship, 2002-2003
- Ann and Edward Page-El Scholarship, UIC Dept. of Disability and Human Development, 2002
- Otis Dante Memorial Scholarship, University of Illinois at Chicago, 2001
- Merit (Full Tuition) Fellowship, Washington University in St. Louis, 1992-1994
- Jesse H. Jones Scholarship, University of Texas College of Communications, 1987-1988
- Phillips 66 Scholarship, University of Texas, 1984-1988

GRANTS RECEIVED

- Co-Principal Investigator: Youth with Disabilities, HIV/AIDS and Sexual Health
 - \$10,000 Seed Grant from Center for Urban Health Initiatives (2008 - 2009)
 - \$25,000 Grant from Canadian Foundation for AIDS Research (2008 - 2009) with Marcia Rioux, Sarah Flicker and Stephanie Nixon for participatory action research in sexual health and HIV prevention with Ontario youth with disabilities
- York Faculty of Health Minor Research Grant, 2008 "Changing Constructions and Competing Responses to Disability in a West African Context": \$1,550.00

GRANT APPLICATIONS SUBMITTED

- Kathryn Geurts, Denise Nepveux, Kodjo Senah, and Wisdom Mprah (\$300,000, 3 years). (co-PI) Understanding Disability in a Globalizing Ghana. National Science Foundation. Application submitted January 30, 2009; revised and resubmitted August 30, 2009.
- Kathryn Geurts, Denise Nepveux and Kodjo Senah. (co-PI). Wenner Gren International Collaborative Research Grant (\$35,000). Understanding Disability in a Globalizing Ghana Application submitted December 1, 2008; unsuccessful.
- Co-Investigator - Canadian Institutes of Health Research Operating Grant (PI: Mina Singh, York University School of Nursing) - \$300,000 over three years for formative evaluation of Black Creek Community Health Center's Diabetes Management and Prevention Program.

Status: Application submitted June, 2008; unsuccessful.

SCHOLARLY AND PROFESSIONAL ACADEMIC ACTIVITIES

Refereed Publications

Nepveux, Denise M. and Smith, Emily L. (forthcoming, fall 2010). Transnational Partnerships for the Disabled African Body in Need: *Emmanuel's Gift* and *Moja Moja*. *Journal of Literary & Cultural Disability Studies*.

Nepveux, Denise M. and Anderson, Sarah. "In the same truth": Reflections from feminist cross-cultural field research in disability. Submitted May 30, 2009 to *ACME: International E-Journal for Critical Geographies*.

Nepveux, Denise M. (2006). Reclaiming agency, ensuring survival: Disabled urban Ghanaian women's negotiations of Church and family belonging. *Disability Studies Quarterly* 26 (4).

Jarman, M., Lamp, S., Mitchell, D., Nepveux, D., Nowell, N., & Snyder, S. (2002). Theorizing disability as political subjectivity. *Disability and Society* 17 (5) 555-569.

Major Contributor to Monograph

Waibel, Gabi & Wille, Sandra (Eds.) with Denise Nepveux as Major Contributor (2003). *Gender and Disability in Ghana: A Reader*. Accra, Ghana: Deutscher Entwicklungsdienst.

Refereed Works in Progress

Nepveux, Denise M. and Anne Marie Bourgeoise (in progress). "I just laugh and continue my journey:" Narratives of mobility and disability in Accra, Ghana. Draft in preparation for submission to *Space and Place*.

Nepveux, Denise (in progress). "Always in the house:" Young women's counternarratives of gender, disability and agency in urban Ghana. Currently adapting from dissertation chapter for submission to *Disability and Society*.

Papers in Non-refereed Journals and Popular Media

Nepveux, Denise (2003). "More 'abled' than disabled": Making changes in the community. [interview with Anastasia Dare] Available online at: http://www.disabilityworld.org/09-11_04/employment/ghana.shtml

Nepveux, Denise (2003). Integrating gender into disability organizations: An interview with Mariama Adam-Issah of ADD Ghana. Available online at: http://www.disabilityworld.org/09-11_04/women/ghana.shtml

Nepveux, Denise (2003). We are human beings like you: An interview with Josephine Kuomkuari and Monica Mwinibano of Ghana Society of the Physically Disabled - Women's Wing. Available online at: http://www.disabilityworld.org/09-11_04/women/ghana2.shtml

Refereed Presentations

Nepveux, Denise M. Global ethnography, postcolonial theory and disability's contemporary role in empire. Paper presented at Society for Disability Studies, Phoenix, Arizona, June 19, 2009.

Nepveux, Denise M. & Smith, Emily Laurel. Transnational social entrepreneurship and the Third World disabled body in need: A look at *Emmanuel's Gift* and *Moja Moja*. Paper presented at Neo-Imperialism in Post-Independence Africa: Definitions, Case Studies and Human Impacts. Yale University, March 27-28, 2009.

Nepveux, Denise M. Disabled children, transnational Christian charity, and new institutional forms in Ghana. Paper presented at African Studies Association, Chicago, Illinois, November 14, 2008.

"As if we were not human beings": Urban women with disabilities in Ghana and the management of marginality. Paper presented to American Anthropological Association, Washington, D.C., December, 2007.

"In the same truth": Reflections from feminist cross-cultural field research in disability. Paper presented at Society for Applied Anthropology, Tampa, Florida, March 28, 2007.

Rehabilitate an athlete, resurrect a nation: Africa, disability sports and the restoration of the U.S. soul in *Emmanuel's Gift*. Paper presented at Society for Disability Studies, Washington D.C., June 14-17, 2006.

"As if we were not human beings": Women's narratives of personhood and disability in contemporary Accra, Ghana. Paper presented at Canadian Disability Studies Association, York University, Toronto, May 27-28, 2006.

"I just laugh and continue my journey": Women's narratives of mobility and disability in a West African City. Paper presented at the Seventh Annual Graduate Symposium on Women's and Gender History, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, March 9-11, 2006.

"Go where the power is": Women's uses of family, religious groups and disability communities in urban Ghana. Paper presented at Society for African Studies Annual Meeting, Washington, D.C., November 17, 2005.

"Go where the power is": Women's uses of family, religious groups and disability communities in urban Ghana. Paper presented at Society for Disability Studies, San Francisco, California, June 10-12, 2005.

Women, disability and domestic citizenship in urban Ghana. Paper presented at Society for Disability Studies, St. Louis, Missouri, June 5-7, 2004.

Woman, mother, human being: Disabled women in urban Ghana. Paper presented at Western Social Science Association, Salt Lake City, Utah, April 21-24, 2004.

Workshops

Nepveux, Denise (2004). Strength and Struggles: Women with Disabilities in Accra. Public seminar at Accra Rehabilitation Center, Ghana, in collaboration with women leaders of Ghanaian disability organizations, January 14, 2004. Covered on GTV and TV Africa News, Ghana.

Nepveux, D., Molloy, Susan and Lamielle, Mary (2002). Understanding MCS/ES/CFIDS: Barriers that impede interaction between our communities and the Independent Living Movement. Workshop presented at the National Council on Independent Living, Washington, D.C., June, 2002.

Invited Presentations

Nepveux, Denise M. (2009). The disability movement in Ghana. Invited presentation for the Ghanaian Students Association, York University, October 8, 2009.

Nepveux, Denise M. (2007). "Except for my shoes": Reflections on the first tenure track year. Invited presentation for the Graduate Student Development Panel of the Society for Disability Studies Annual Meeting, Seattle, Washington, May 31, 2007.

Women and disability rights movements in Africa. Invited presentation for Conference on the Eradication of Disease in Africa sponsored by Greater Toronto Area high schools, Noor Cultural Center, Toronto, May 24, 2007.

Non-Refereed Presentations

Nepveux, Denise M. (2005). "Not to depend on anyone again:" Perspectives of urban Ghanaian women with disabilities on autonomy and independence. Paper presented at the Chicago Ethnography Conference, February 26, 2005.

Beyond individuality: West African women with disabilities and the cultural politics of independence. Paper presented at Midwest Dean's Occupational Therapy Conference, March 6, 2005.

UNIVERSITY TEACHING

Undergraduate Courses Taught

HLST 4010: Health Care Ethics: Policy and Management Perspectives
Fall, 2007, 2008 and 2009

Graduate Courses Taught

CDIS 5100: Disability Studies: An Overview (full-year course)
Fall/Winter 2006-7; 2007-8; 2008-9
CDIS 5110: Research Methodology in Disability Studies
Winter 2007; Fall 2007; Winter 2008; Fall 2008; Winter 2009; Fall 2009
CDIS 5040: Politics and Experience of Multiple Identities
Fall, 2009

Graduate Supervision

Name	Major Research Paper Title	Enrolled	Year of Completion
Antonia Hammer	Miss Landmine: Angola's New Take on Beauty Pageants	2007	2008
Md. Sazzad Hossain	Community Approaches to Handicap in Development (CAHD) as a Strategy to Implement Community-Based Rehabilitation in Less-Developed Countries	2007	2008

Carolina Ayala	Myself As I am, Not As Others See Me: Stuttering, Identity and Acceptance	2006	2008
Natasha Saltes	Capturing Disability on Camera: Exploring Disability Representation in Canadian Broadcast Media	2008	2009
Danielle Vliestra	Collaboration of Educators and Agencies on the Transition of Studies with Intellectual Disabilities into Post-Secondary Activities: A Participatory Action Research Project.	2007 (part- time)	2009
Morgan Lincoln	Disability Through a Nursing Lens: Qualitative Study of Nursing Students' Understandings of Disability	2007 (part- time)	In Progress
Adam Kucharski	Sport, Masculinity, Technology, and the Disabled Body	2008	In Progress
Nadia Kanani	Intersectionality Meets Embodiment: A Theoretical Exploration	2006	In Progress
Erin George	Participatory Action Research Study on Blind/Visually Impaired People's Participation in Cycle For Sight	2007 (part- time)	In Progress
Critical Disability Studies Program			
Major Research Paper Supervision	Completed		
	Principal Supervisor	Advisor	Reader
	5	9	3
	In Progress (active)		
	Supervisor	Advisor	Reader
	4	5	0

SERVICE AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

York University Service

University-Wide Access Committee:

Awareness and Education Task Force, 2009 - 2010

Faculty Subcommittee Member, 2008 – 2009

Faculty of Health:

Curriculum Committee member, 2009 - 2010

Nominations Committee member, 2007 - 2008

Education Committee member, 2007 – 2008

Research Committee member, 2008-2009

School of Health Policy and Management:

Undergraduate Committee Chair, 2009 – 2010

Participated in Fall Gala 2009 and Spring Gala 2010

Professional Contributions

- Reviewer, Canadian Journal of Occupational Therapy, December 2009
- Reviewer, Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation, Community Based Research Grants, February 2009
- Reviewer, *Critical Disability Discourse* (Graduate Student Journal, York University Critical Disability Studies), 2009 and 2010

- Society for Disability Studies
 - Annual Conference Program Committee, 2006 and 2009
 - People of Color Caucus, Founding Member
 - International Caucus Member
- International Association of Qualitative Inquiry
 - Advisory Committee Member, 2005-present

Professional Association Memberships

- American Anthropological Association
 - Society for Africanist Anthropology
 - Society for Feminist Anthropology
 - Disability Research Interest Group
- Society for Applied Anthropology
 - Disability Studies and Occupational Science Interest Group
- African Studies Association
 - Ghana Studies Council
- Future of Minority Studies Writing Exchange Group
- Canadian African Studies Association
- Canadian Disability Studies Association

Other Leadership and Service

- Founder/Coordinator, Ghana Scholarships Fund, Evanston, Illinois, 2004-2008
- Professional Development Chairperson, UIC Disability Studies Student Council, , 2005-2006
- Chairperson, “Live and Let’s Live” Seminar on HIV-AIDS and Disabled Women, Ghana Society of the Physically Disabled, December, 2003
- Appointee, UIC Chancellor’s Committee on LGBT Issues, 2004-2006
- Disability Studies Program Representative, UIC Graduate Student Council 2001-2002
- Fundraising Committee Chairperson, UIC Disabled Students Union, 2001-2002
- Facilitator, “The Write Thing” Mental Illness Political Advocacy Group, July 2000 to December 2001