

Eden Mekonen

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EDUCATION

Master of Science and Doctor of Philosophy , Geography and African Studies <i>Pennsylvania State University</i>	In Progress
Bachelor of Arts , Critical Theory and Social Justice Emphasis in Post-Colonial Theory; Interdisciplinary Writing Minor <i>Occidental College</i>	Spring 2016
Certificate , Social and Political Transformation <i>School for International Training (SIT) Durban, South Africa</i>	Spring 2015

FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS, & AWARDS

Bunton Waller Graduate Assistantship , Pennsylvania State University	2021 - 2022
Ethiopian Diaspora Fellowship	2017 - 2018
Segal AmeriCorps Education Award , AmeriCorps	2017
Dean's List , Occidental College	Spring 2014 - Spring 2016
Mary S. Caswell Endowment Summer Research Fellowship , Occidental College	Summer 2015
Opportunity Grant , Occidental College	2012 - 2016

RESEARCH & TEACHING INTERESTS

Black geographies; migrants and migration; displacement and relocation, diaspora, cultural memory and place making; critical theory; imagined communities; identity, othering, and belonging; humanitarianism; transnationalism; Ethiopia/Horn of Africa

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Co-Archivist and Program Manager Critical Hope and Black Life at Occidental College <i>Black Alumni Organization of Occidental College (BAO)</i> Developed methodology of the <i>BAO Archive Project: Critical Hope and Black Life at Oxy</i> to digitally preserve the institutional memory of Black Occidental College students, staff, and instructors through demographic mapping, digitization of physical artifacts, and oral histories in partnership with the Southern California Library for Social Studies and Research, Occidental College's Special Collections Library, Center for Digital Liberal Arts, Center for Community-Based Learning, Intercultural Community Center, Institute for the Study of Los Angeles, and Black Studies department.	August 2020 - Present
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Mapping Consultant

August 2017 - February 2018

University of Denver

Designed interactive ArcGIS maps for Arizona State University Higher and Postsecondary Education Assistant Professor, Meseret F. Hailu's dissertation *Understanding Why Women Stay: Examining Persistence Factors of Women Majoring in Science and Technology Programs in Public Ethiopian Universities Using a Mixed Methods Design* published in 2018.

Undergraduate Summer Research Project

May 2015 - August 2015

Gendered Diaspora: Little Ethiopia, Occidental College

Conducted field-based interviews and focus groups to review, interpret, and analyze qualitative data on the political and social significance of the Little Ethiopia ethnic enclave in Los Angeles, CA to the Ethiopian Diaspora under the advisement of Movindiriri Reddy, professor at Occidental College.

Independent Study Project

April 2015 - May 2015

ምንድንነሽ?: Reflections on Self-Identity Among Ethiopian Diasporic Women in Durban, South Africa*School for International Training (SIT) Durban, South Africa*

Conducted oral histories with Ethiopian (im)migrant women in Durban, South Africa under the advisement of Biniam Misgun, lecturer at the University of KwaZulu-Natal.

PUBLICATIONS

Contributor, Haas Center for Public Service. (2019, August 23). *Principles of Ethical and Effective Service*. Retrieved from <https://haas.stanford.edu/about/our-approach/principles-ethical-and-effective-service>

Mekonen, E. (2017, December 27). *Black Bole*. Retrieved from <http://www.addisinsight.com/black-bole/>

Contributor, Occidental College. (2018, October 19). *Oxy United for Black Liberation*. Retrieved from <http://specialcollections.oxycreates.org/equitydiversity/s/oxy-united-for-black-liberation/page/welcome>

TEACHING & ADVISING EXPERIENCE

Teaching**Teaching Assistant**

April 2021 - June 2021

Haas Center for Public Service, Stanford University

URBANST 190A/SOC 190A: Social Impact Careers Intensive

Teaching Assistant

September 2018 - June 2019

Office for Inclusion, Belonging and Intergroup Communication, Stanford University

RESPROG 40B: Emerson Fellowship: Transforming Dialogue Into Action

Volunteer Teacher

July 2014 - August 2014

SOS Children's Village Addis Ababa

Advising

Cardinal Careers Advisor <i>Haas Center for Public Service, Stanford University</i>	July 2020 - August 2021
Cardinal Quarter Advisor <i>Haas Center for Public Service, Stanford University</i>	September 2019 - July 2020
Public Service Student Leadership Awards Advisor <i>Haas Center for Public Service, Stanford University</i>	September 2018 - July 2020
Lead Writing Advisor <i>Writing Center (formerly Center for Academic Excellence), Occidental College</i>	October 2014 - May 2016

STUDENT MENTORING

National Awards & Scholarships

Truman Scholarship Nomination Committee, Co-Chair

Mercedes Blancaflor (<i>Scholar</i>), Stanford University	2020 - 2021
Nicholas Hakes (<i>Scholar</i>), Stanford University	2020 - 2021
Alisha Zhao (<i>Finalist</i>), Stanford University	2020 - 2021

Newman Civic Fellowship Nomination Committee, Member

Megha Prawani (<i>Fellow</i>), Stanford University	2020 - 2021
Alexander Mejia (<i>Fellow</i>), Stanford University	2019 - 2020
Araceli Garcia (<i>Fellow</i>), Stanford University	2018 - 2019

Udall Scholarship Nomination Committee, Chair

Mercedes Blancaflor (<i>Scholar</i>), Stanford University	2019 - 2021
Caroline Pecos-Duarte (<i>Scholar</i>), Stanford University	2019 - 2020
Gabriel Saiz (<i>Scholar</i>), Stanford University	2018 - 2019

Strauss Scholarship Nomination Committee, Chair

Ruhi Kanwar (<i>Scholar</i>), Stanford University	2019 - 2020
Vardhaan Ambati (<i>Scholar</i>), Stanford University	2020 - 2021

Institutional Awards & Fellowships

Sand Hill Philanthropy Fellowship Selection Committee, Co-Chair

Julia Heymach, Stanford University	2021
Pranavi Kethanaboyina, Stanford University	2021
Michelle Ly, Stanford University	2021
Jasmine Nguyen, Stanford University	2021

Social Impact Grant Nomination Committee, Member

Jaime Deverall (<i>Grantee</i>), Stanford University	2019
Jeff Kassab (<i>Grantee</i>), Stanford University	2019
Tori Qui (<i>Grantee</i>), Stanford University	2019

Emerson Fellowship: Transforming Dialogue into Action

Colette Le Brannan, Stanford University	2018 - 2019
Araceli Garcia, Stanford University	2018 - 2019
Candice Kim, Stanford University	2018 - 2019
Caleb Martin, Stanford University	2018 - 2019
Iris Yesenia Osorio-Villatoro, Stanford University	2018 - 2019

Haas Center Peer Advisors

Gabrielle Crooks, Stanford University	2020 - 2021
Janet Martinez, Stanford University	2020 - 2021
Melissa Loupeda, Stanford University	2019 - 2021
Adam Nayak, Stanford University	2019 - 2021
Anika Sinha, Stanford University	2018 - 2021
Leya Elias, Stanford University	2019 - 2020
Fernando Hernandez, Stanford University	2019 - 2020
Trisha Jo-Marie Litong, Stanford University	2019 - 2020
Ike Osafo Nkansah, Stanford University	2019 - 2020
Jackie Renee O'Neil, Stanford University	2019 - 2020
Nicole Apana, Stanford University	2018 - 2020

Black Alumni Organization (BAO) of Occidental College

Maddie Dieffenbach, Occidental College	2021
Jaiyen English, Occidental College	2021

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS, INVITED TALKS, & WORKSHOPS**Conferences**

National Service-Learning Conference	March 2021
Reviewing, Engaging, and Institutionalizing Principles of Ethical and Effective Service	
Campus Compact (<i>conference cancelled</i>)	March 2020
Reviewing, Engaging, and Institutionalizing Principles of Ethical and Effective Service	
Occidental College Undergraduate Research Conference	August 2015
Gendered Diaspora: Little Ethiopia	

Invited Talks

- “Social Impact Career Exploration,” Cardinal Courses, Stanford University, May 7, 2021.
- “Hopium: Intergenerational Wisdom and Community Care with Oxy Alumni” Sociocultural Foundations of Education, Occidental College, April 1, 2021.
- “Archiving One’s Sacred Purpose in Higher Education,” Sociocultural Foundations of Education, Occidental College, April 1, 2021.
- “Community Archiving & Storytelling as Liberation,” Multicultural Summer Institute, Occidental College, March 15, 2021.
- “Commemorative Justice and the Necessity of Preserving Black Life,” Institute for the Study of Los Angeles, Occidental College, February 17, 2021.

Workshops

- “**Navigating Racial Equity Detours**” April 2021
Stanford University
- “**Social Entrepreneurship & Social Impact Careers**” March 2021
Stanford University
- “**Self-Care & Community Care Amidst COVID-19**” April 2020; January 2021
Stanford University
- “**Engaging in Ethical & Effective Service**” (20+ workshops) September 2019 - June 2020
Stanford University
- “**Microaggressions: Mistaken Identity**” May 2019
Stanford University
- “**Storytelling for Social Justice**” March 2019
Stanford University
- “**Digitally Mapping Selamta Family Project Households**” January 2018
Ethiopian Diaspora Fellowship

INSTITUTIONAL SERVICE

Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, & Belonging

- Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion Committee**, People of Color Affinity Chair August 2020 - August 2021
Haas Center for Public Service, Stanford University
- Black Coalition at Stanford**, Member August 2020 - August 2021
Stanford University
- Responding to Systemic Injustice Writing Committee**, Member May 2020 - August 2021
Haas Center for Public Service, Stanford University

Black Alumni Organization of Occidental College (BAO), Co-Archivist Occidental College	August 2019 - August 2021
People of Color Affinity Group, Co-chair <i>Haas Center for Public Service, Stanford University</i>	September 2018 - August 2021
Black Staff Alliance, Member Stanford University	September 2018 - August 2021
African Student Association (AFSA), Co-Founder and Vice President Occidental College	September 2013 - May 2016

Public Service & Community Engagement

Marion Brummell Kenworthy Award for Student Innovation in Public Service Committee, Member <i>Haas Center for Public Service, Stanford University</i>	April 2021
Strategic Action Plan Committee, Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion Co-chair <i>Haas Center for Public Service, Stanford University</i>	January 2020 - August 2021
Public Service Careers Community of Practice, Member Haas Center for Public Service, Stanford University	July 2020 - August 2021
Student Activism Ad Hoc Committee, Co-chair <i>Haas Center for Public Service, Stanford University</i>	September 2020 - August 2021
John Gardner Public Service Fellowship Reading Committee, Member <i>Haas Center for Public Service, Stanford University</i>	January 2021
Community Impact Fellowship Reading Committee, Member <i>Haas Center for Public Service, Stanford University</i>	February 2021
Student Activism Collaborative Action Team (CAT), Member <i>Haas Center for Public Service, Stanford University</i>	June 2020 - August 2020
Beautification Committee, Member <i>Haas Center for Public Service, Stanford University</i>	May 2019 - August 2020
Walk the Talk Service Leadership Award Selection Committee, Member Haas Center for Public Service, Stanford University	May 2020
Kennedy-Diamond Graduate Award for Excellence in Community Engaged Learning & Research Committee, Member <i>Haas Center for Public Service, Stanford University</i>	April 2020 - May 2020
Stanford Pride Fellowship Selection Committee, Co-Chair <i>Haas Center for Public Service, Stanford University</i>	February 2020 - March 2020

African Service Fellowship Selection Committee, Member <i>Haas Center for Public Service, Stanford University</i>	February 2020 - March 2020
International Public Service Fellowship Selection Committee, Member <i>Haas Center for Public Service, Stanford University</i>	February 2020 - March 2020
Spirituality, Service, and Social Change Fellowship Selection Committee, Co-Chair <i>Haas Center for Public Service, Stanford University</i>	February 2020
Cardinal Course Grant Selection Committee, Member <i>Haas Center for Public Service, Stanford University</i>	June 2019 - August 2019
National Advisory Board Student Members Selection Committee, Member <i>Haas Center for Public Service, Stanford University</i>	May 2019 - June 2019
Principles of Ethical & Effective Service Task Force, Member <i>Haas Center for Public Service, Stanford University</i>	August 2018 - June 2019
Community Partnerships Committee, Member <i>Haas Center for Public Service, Stanford University</i>	August 2018 - June 2019

OTHER PUBLIC SERVICE PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Student & Community Programs, Program Coordinator <i>Haas Center for Public Service, Stanford University</i>	September 2019 - August 2021
Community Engaged Learning & Research, Interim Program Manager <i>Haas Center for Public Service, Stanford University</i>	June 2019 - September 2019
Student Cohorts & Community Partnerships, Program Coordinator <i>Haas Center for Public Service, Stanford University</i>	September 2018 - June 2019
Human Resource & Data Coordination Fellow <i>Selamta Family Project, Ethiopian Diaspora Fellowship</i>	August 2017 - February 2018
Community Engagement Coordinator <i>Las Fotos Project, AmeriCorps: Public Allies Los Angeles</i>	August 2016 - June 2017

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Black Alumni Organization of Occidental College (BAO)	August 2019 - Present
African Diaspora Network (ADN)	September 2018 - Present
Campus Compact	August 2018 - Present
Your Ethiopian Professionals (YEP)	August 2017 - Present
Diaspora African Women's Network (DAWN)	September 2016 - Present

LANGUAGE & PLATFORM PROFICIENCIES

Language Proficiencies

Amharic: Native speaking; beginner reading, writing

Spanish: Beginner speaking, reading, writing

Platforms

Proficient Microsoft Office Suite, Google Apps, WordPress, Zimas, ArcGIS, Social Explorer, American FactFinder, MailChimp, Slack, Salesforce, Scalar, OMEKA, Canvas, Canva, AirTable