

CURRICULUM VITAE

Brenda Margaret Farnell

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Biography

Born and raised in Yorkshire, England; American citizen.

Education

1990 PhD in Socio-Cultural & Linguistic Anthropology, Indiana University (Bloomington).
1984 MA in Anthropology of Human Movement, New York University.
1977 Advanced Diploma in Dance and Human Movement Studies, Laban Dance Center, Goldsmiths College, London University, England.
1969 Teaching Diploma (B. Ed.) I. M. Marsh College, Liverpool University, England.
Major: Dance Studies/Phys. Ed. Minor: Biology.

Academic positions

2018 - Professor and Head of Department of Anthropology
2017 (March-Aug), Acting Head, Anthropology Department
2013-17 Director of Undergraduate Studies, Anthropology Department
2011- Professor, Anthropology Dept., University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.
2000- 2010 Associate Professor, Anthropology Dept., University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.
2004-05 Founding Co-Director, Native American House/American Indian Studies Program, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.
1996-00 Assistant Professor, Anthropology Dept., University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.
1992-95 Visiting Assistant Professor, Anthropology Dept., University of Iowa.
1993 Visiting Scholar, Center for Advanced Studies, University of Iowa (Fall).
1991-92 Visiting Asst. Professor, Linguistics Program, Hamilton College, New York.

Research interests and fields of specialization

(i) Anthropology of dance, human movement & performance; arts/expressive culture; body/embodyed personhood; socio-cultural theory and philosophy; symbolic/semiotic anthropology; Labanotation and movement literacy; Indigenous theater; Contemporary American post-modern dance and choreographic process

(ii) Linguistic anthropology: discourse; ethnography of communication; performance theory; gesture and signed languages; integration of speech and visible action; ethnopoetics; problems of embodiment in linguistics and social theory; endangered languages and language revitalization.

(iii) Ethnographic Areas: Indigenous North America; Plains Indians; field research among the Nakota (Assiniboine), Crow (Montana & Canada) and Kiowa, Comanche (Oklahoma). Plains storytelling performance with sign language; multi-media ethnography. Contemporary Indigenous theater (Canada and US) American contemporary concert dance (New York).

Publications

Books

- 2012 *Dynamic Embodiment for Social Theory: 'I Move Therefore I am'*. London and New York: Routledge.
- 2009 *Do You See What I Mean?: Plains Indian Sign Talk and the Embodiment of Action*. Lincoln: U of Nebraska Press. 2nd Paperback edition
- 1995 (edited volume) *Action Sign Systems in Cultural Context: The Visible and the Invisible in Movement and Dance*. Metuchen, NJ: Scarecrow Press.
- 1995 *Do You See What I Mean?: Plains Indian Sign Talk and the Embodiment of Action*. Austin: University of Texas Press.
- 1990 *The Laban Script: A Beginning Text on Movement Writing for Non-Dancers* (co-authored with Dr. D. Williams). Canberra: Australian Institute of Aboriginal Studies.

CD Roms, DVDs and Videos

- 2010 *Diversity in the Classroom* (DVD and User's Manual for diversity training. Funded by Center for Teaching Excellence.
- 2007 *Not a Mascot* (Video). Selected for Inclusion in AAA Exhibition, *Race: Are We So Different* (<http://raceproject.aaanet.org/home.html>).
- 2004 *Dakota Language: An Introduction*, Interactive CD Rom [collaborative Project with Mr. Melvin Grey Owl.] For the Crow Creek Dakota Community, South Dakota.
- 2002-4 *American Indians of Illinois Online*. Website and online course, developed through Continuing Education. [with Prof. Fred Hoxie]
- 1997 *Iowa Multi-media Workshop for Endangered Languages: A Sampler*. Second Look Computing, University of Iowa.
- 1997 *Nakota Songs*. [Collaborative project with Mike and Mary Talks Different]. For Fort Belknap College, Montana.
- 1995 *Wiyuta: Assiniboine Storytelling with Signs*. (An interactive multi-media ethnography). Austin: University of Texas Press.

Articles

- [in press] "Body, Embodiment." *International Encyclopedia of Linguistic Anthropology*. Wiley Blackwell.
- [in press] "The Kinesthetic System" In *Parsing the Body*. M Bucholtz and Kira Hall eds.
- 2017 "Techniques of the Body." *International Encyclopedia of Anthropology*. (Ed. Hilary Callan). Wiley Online Library.
- 2017 "Mindful Body." *International Encyclopedia of Anthropology*. (Ed. Hilary Callan). Wiley Online Library.

- 2016 “Intimate Choreographies.” In *Collaborative Intimacies* (ed. Evangelos Chrysagis & Panagiotis Karampampas). Brooklyn and Oxford: Berghahn Books. [with Robert N. Wood]
- 2016 “The Second Somatic Revolution.” *Journal for the Anthropological Study of Human Movement*. [Special Issue on Dynamic Embodiment theory] (with C. Varela)
- 2015 “Kinesthetic System.” *The SAGE Encyclopedia of Theory in Psychology*. London, New Delhi: Sage Publications.
- 2014 “Discourse Centered Methods.” In *Handbook of Methods in Anthropology*, H. Russell Bernard (ed.) 2nd Edition. Altamira Press, Sage Publications. (with Laura Graham). [Extensively revised and updated review essay]
- 2012 “Performing Precision and the Limits of Observation.” In *Redrawing Anthropology: Materials, Movements Lines*. Edited by Tim Ingold. London: Ashgate Press. (with Robert N. Wood)
- 2011 “Theorizing ‘The Body’ in Visual Culture.” In *Visions of Culture: A History of Visual Anthropology*. Edited by Marcus Banks and Jay Ruby. University of Chicago Press.
- 2008 “The Second Somatic Revolution.” *Journal for the Theory of Social Behavior* 38(3): 215-240. (with C. Varela)
- 2008 “Indigenous Dances on Stage: Embodied Knowledge at Risk?” *Taiwan Dance Research Journal* 4: 151-180.
- 2007 “Choreography as Live Theoretical Practice” Proceedings of *Society for Dance History Scholars* (with Robert Wood)
- 2006 “Choreographing Colonialism in the American West” *Proceedings of the Society of Dance History Scholars* (SDHS) Conference.
- 2005 “Developments in the Study of ‘Gesture’ in Language.” *Anthropological Linguistics* 46(1): 100-115.
- 2004 “The Fancy Dance of Racializing Discourse.” *Journal for Sport and Social Issues* 28 (1): 30-55.
- 2004 “Zero Sum Game: An Update on the Native American Mascot Controversy at the University of Illinois.” *Journal for Sport and Social Issues* Vol. 28(2): 212-215.
- 2003 “North American Indian Dance” In *Dictionary of American History*. 3rd Edition. Stanley I. Kutler, (Ed.) New York: Charles Scribner’s Sons.
- 2003 “Birdwhistell, Hall, Lomax and the Origins of Visual Anthropology” *Visual Anthropology* 16: 43-55.
- 2003 “Plains Indian Sign Language.” In *Dictionary of American History*. 3rd Edition. Stanley I. Kutler, (Ed.) New York: Charles Scribner’s Sons.

- 2002 "Dynamic Embodiment in Assiniboine (Nakota) Storytelling." *Anthropological Linguistics*.
- 2001 "Rethinking Verbal and Non-Verbal in Discursive Performance." *Textus*. 14: 417-436.
- 2000 "Getting Out of the Habitus: An Alternative Model of Dynamically Embodied Social Action." *Journal of the Royal Anthropological Institute* 6: 397-418.
- 1999 "Moving Bodies, Acting Selves." *Annual Review of Anthropology*, Volume 28: 341-73.
- 1999 "It Goes Without Saying--But Not Always." In *Dance in the Field: Theory, Methods and Issues in Dance Ethnography*. T. Buckland ed. Macmillan Press. Pp. 145-160.
- 1998 "Discourse Centered Methods." (with L. Graham). In *Handbook of Methods in Anthropology*, H. Russell Bernard (ed.) Altamira Press, Sage Publications. Pp. 411-458.
- 1997 "Sign Language." *Encyclopedia of the American Indian*. F. Hoxie ed. New York: Houghton Mifflin. Pp. 589-590.
- 1996 "Metaphors We Move By." *Visual Anthropology* 8: 311-335.
- 1996 "Gesture and Movement." *Encyclopedia of Cultural Anthropology*. Human Relations area Files, Yale University, American Reference Publishing Co. Pp. 536-541.
- 1996 "Movement Writing Systems." In *The World's Writing Systems*. P. Daniels and W. Bright (Eds.) Oxford: Oxford University Press. Pp. 855-879.
- 1995 "Ethnography Goes Interactive." *Anthropology Today*, October. Pp. 7-10.
- 1995 "Where Mind is a Verb: Spatial Orientation and Deixis in Plains Indian Sign Talk and Assiniboine (Nakota) Culture." In B. Farnell (Ed.) (as above). Pp. 82-111.
- 1994 "Ethno-Graphics and the Moving Body." *MAN, Journal of the Royal Anthropological Institute* 29(4): 929-974.
- 1991 "Nakota Makoc'e: An American Indian Storytelling Performance." *Yearbook of the International Council for Traditional Music*.
- 1989 "Body Movement Notation." *International Encyclopedia of Communications*. E. Barnouw, ed. Philadelphia: Oxford University /University of Pennsylvania Press.

Fellowships, Grants, Awards

- 2017 UIUC Department of Anthropology, Distinguished Service Award.
- 2011 Co-Investigator, "Indigenous Knowledge, Contemporary Performance." Research Creation Grant, SSHRC (Social Science and Humanities Research Council), Canada, \$238,500.
- 2010 *Scoring the Body through Indigenous Aesthetic Principles in Native American*

Dramatic Art. UIUC Campus Research Board \$20,053.

- 2009 UIUC Department of Anthropology, Distinguished Service Award.
- 2009 UIUC Research Board, Humanities Research Leave.
- 2005 & 6 UIUC Research Board Award: "Talking from the Body in Post-modern Dance"
- 2002 Appointment to Research Associate, *UIUC Center for Advanced Study*.
- 2000 Helen Corley Petit Scholar. UIUC Award for outstanding Promotion to Tenure.
- 1998 Illinois Program for Research in the Humanities. Faculty Research Fellowship 1998-99.
- 1997 CD ROM selected for special public presentation at Native American Film Festival, Smithsonian National Museum of the American Indian, New York.
- 1996 Winner of a 'Haozous Award' for Best CD ROM, New Technologies section, *Native Americas International Film Festival*, Santa Fe, New Mexico.
- 1994-95 Research Award, Wenner-Gren Foundation for Anthropological Research
- 1990-91 Post-doctoral Fellowship, Smithsonian Institution (sponsor: Dr. Ives Goddard).

Other professional activities

- Editor, *Journal for the Anthropological Study of Human Movement*, U of Illinois Press
- Member, Committee on Minority Issues in Anthropology, *American Anthropological Association*
- Faculty Board Member, University of Illinois Press
- Professional Advisory Board, Dance Notation Bureau
- Reviewer of manuscripts for professional journals: *American Anthropologist*, *American Ethnologist*, *American Indian Quarterly*, *Anthropological Linguistics*, *Body and Society*, *Dance Research Journal*, *Ethos*, *International Journal of American Linguistics*, *Journal of Linguistic Anthropology*, *Medical Anthropology*, *Journal of Movement Arts Literacy*, *Visual Anthropology*.
- Reviewer of manuscripts for academic presses: *University of Illinois Press*, *University of Arizona Press*, *University of Oklahoma Press*; *Gordon and Breach Publishers*, *Berg Publishers*, *Routledge*.
- Grant Proposal Reviews for: *National Science Foundation*; *National Endowment for the Humanities*, *Guggenheim Foundation*; *Wenner-Gren Foundation*
- Consultant: Plains Sign Language, Assiniboine Language Program, Fort Belknap College & American Indian Studies Research Institute, Indiana University

Languages

Assiniboine/Nakota (Siouan) (elementary s,r,w); Plains Indian Sign Language (s,r,w); German (elementary s,r,w); French (r); ASL (elementary); Labanotation (movement script) Advanced & Teaching Certification.