

Tenured Faculty Enhancement Leave Program
Application and Letter of Understanding

Name: ROBBIE LIEBERMAN Rank/Title: PROFESSOR

College: CHSS Department: INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES

Period of Leave Requested (select only one): Fall Semester Spring Semester

Date of Initial Appointment at KSU: 2013 Rank at Initial Appointment: PROFESSOR

Effective Date of Tenure: 2001

Previous Leaves: _____ Date: _____

_____ Date: _____

Project Title: AFRICAN AMERICAN PEACE ADVOCATES IN THE EARLY COLD WAR ERA

Replacement Budget Funding Statement of Understanding

We understand and agree to the following stipulations with respect to replacement funding for this faculty member's Leave:

The faculty member will not receive additional funds during the semester of the leave, but they will continue to draw their usual salary.

The department will hire part-time instructors to cover the faculty member's courses. The associated instructional replacement costs will come from the part-time faculty pool.

If unique departmental circumstances necessitate a different financial arrangement (for instance, a limited-term full time hire) the chair should provide a justification in the box below. The financial request will be reviewed by Fiscal Affairs in addition to the selection committee substantive review, and it might impact the applicant's chances.

Chair financial request and justification (only if part-time replacements are deemed inadequate):

Tenured Faculty Enhancement Leave Program

Application and Letter of Understanding

I agree to all terms and conditions outlined below:

1. I agree to return to KSU as a full-time faculty member for twelve months after completion of this Leave. If I resign or retire from KSU before the end of that year, I agree to reimburse KSU for the amount of compensation I received while on leave, as well as any other expenses paid for my benefit by KSU or its affiliated entities during the leave, including all benefit costs.
2. I will complete the Leave project goals and activities as accepted by the selection committee in the time frame specified in the proposal.
3. I will submit a comprehensive final report to the Executive Director for Faculty Development, Recognition, and CETL no later than 6 months after the completion of the Leave. The report will delineate:
 - a. All work and activities completed during the Leave.
 - b. How the goals and outcomes of the Leave have been met.
 - c. Any dissemination of results (e.g., publications, presentations, grant proposals submitted, seminars or workshops, materials developed for classroom instruction, etc). Attach one copy of submitted, published, or presented papers (or other disseminated products).
 - d. Ongoing activities and follow-up.
4. I will conduct a workshop or seminar for colleagues on the outcomes of my Leave within 6 months of the end of the Leave.
5. I understand that the purpose of the Leave is to provide me time or the opportunity to work on the project full time and agree to suspend all KSU-related responsibilities and activities unrelated to the project during the term in which the Leave is taken, except as allowed by the Enhancement Leave Guidelines.
6. I understand that my successful application will be published on the CETL faculty development website as a model for future applicants.
7. I understand that if any of the above conditions are violated, I will not be eligible for funding from any KSU Funding Award program for a 5-year period.

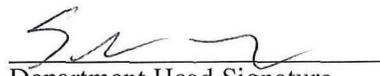
Required Signatures:


Faculty Applicant Signature

ROBBIE LIEBERMAN
Print Name

Jan-6, 2020
Date

I have read the proposal, approve of its implementation, and agree to provide course releases as funded and scheduled.


Department Head Signature

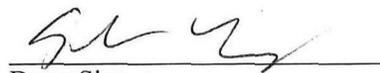
Shawn Long
Print Name

1/6/2020
Date

Sharing Department Head Signature
(for jointly appointed faculty)

Print Name

Date


Dean Signature

Shawn Long
Print Name

1/6/2020
Date

Sharing Dean signature
(for jointly appointed faculty)

Print Name

Date

Abstract

In popular memory and scholarly studies, the peace movement and civil rights are two distinct causes, although both were attacked as Communist-inspired during the early years of the Cold War. There was, however, a significant group of intellectuals and activists who worked for both peace *and* freedom. My book project focuses on a group of notable African American writers who connected these two issues in their work. I examine biographical material and historical evidence to see what led them to this point of view, analyze their written work, and theorize about why their peace advocacy has received so little attention.

Narrative

Introduction: In a powerful speech at Manhattan's Riverside Church in April 1967, Martin Luther King took issue with those who urged him to remain silent about the Vietnam War, stating: "Peace and Civil Rights Don't Mix, They Say." He explained that he had to speak out because the issues of peace and freedom were inseparable. In popular lore and in scholarship, there is little attention paid to the fact that Dr. King was hardly the first African American to link these issues. Yet there was a significant group of black radicals in the early years of the Cold War, before Vietnam became a public concern, who worked for peace *and* freedom, not only in the United States but on a global scale. During the early Cold War era, the U.S. government and their fellow citizens treated these intellectuals and activists with suspicion. This was not only because they spoke up for civil rights, a struggle that their opponents dismissed as being Communist-inspired, but also because their vision of peace challenged U.S. Cold War policies rooted in anticommunism. As a result, their opponents branded them "un-American" because they advocated peaceful coexistence with the Soviet Union and opposed U.S. support for the (anticommunist) apartheid regime in South Africa, the development of nuclear weapons, and involvement in the Korean War.

One reason this story has never been fully told is because some of those who advocated for peace and freedom as inseparable causes did indeed have ties to the Communist movement, ties that some activists themselves denied and that scholars often avoid acknowledging. But links to U.S. Communism do not fully explain the range of vision of black radicals. These were intellectuals and artists who were, in the words of award-winning playwright Lorraine Hansberry, "sick and tired of poverty, lynching, stupid wars . . . and obsessed with a rather desperate desire for a new world."¹¹

Rationale and Purpose: My project is to bring to light stories of African American writers who shared Hansberry's outlook, with the aim of documenting and interpreting their concerns about peace issues. The history of the U.S. peace movement often gives short shrift to African American participants, with the exception of well-known non-violent activists such as Dr. King and Bayard Rustin. Likewise, African American history too often leaves out the peace movement. While scholarship on the black freedom movement includes substantial discussion of black internationalism, the word "peace" is carefully avoided. Yet the interest in peace based on justice is one of the significant features of black radicalism during the early Cold War era.

There is an ongoing debate among scholars of the black freedom movement about the extent to which the Cold War benefited or harmed the movement, and some of my previous scholarship intervenes in this debate, documenting the detrimental impact of the Cold War Red Scare on the movement. While the Cold War, in which the U.S. claimed to stand for freedom, gave the movement a powerful weapon, the Red Scare also had a strong impact, leading to a narrowing of the range of issues and participants included in what came to be called the "civil rights movement." Without taking anything away from that movement, including the tremendous sacrifices and the gains that were made, we can acknowledge that its concerns were much broader before the Cold War took hold. Issues of economic justice were at the center of the movement of the 1930s, and the high hopes that accompanied the end of World War II had to do not only with gaining legal rights and being treated with dignity but also with creating a peaceful world based on justice and human rights. The purpose of this project is to expand our understanding of the vision of black radicals during the early Cold War years and persuade peace historians to pay more attention to their concerns.

In so doing, I intend to challenge the popular and scholarly memory of these movements, by expanding our view of several successful writers—novelists, journalists, and playwrights—who have been lauded for their commentary on racial issues while their peace advocacy has been neglected or marginalized. My published article on Lorraine Hansberry is an example of the kind of work that this project will build upon.

Methodology and Outcomes: African Americans suffered the most severe anticommunist attacks, especially those who were outspoken about peace as well as freedom, beginning with two towering figures: W. E. B. Du Bois, arguably the most significant black intellectual of the 20th century, and Paul Robeson, the renowned international concert singer and actor. My second book, *The Strangest Dream*, analyzes the concerted attacks on both of these men, but there was a substantial and fascinating group of activists and intellectuals who followed their lead. Actor Ossie Davis, for example, was one of many well-known African Americans who challenged their own leaders not to accept what Du Bois called the “bargain” offered to them, namely incremental increases in black rights in exchange for silence about foreign affairs. Davis spoke for a number of others when he said, “I was on the side with Paul Robeson and W. E. B. Du Bois.”^[2]

My proposed book will focus on several black writers who had successful careers despite attacks and surveillance on them because of their political views. These include playwright Lorraine Hansberry, journalist and community activist Charlotta Bass, and Georgia novelist John O. Killens, all of whom had clear ties to the Communist left, but also novelist Ann Petry and pacifist correspondent William Worthy, who were not part of that network. I will propose a conference paper on a group of writers—Killens and Petry among them—who published successful first novels but whose subsequent “peace novels” never received the recognition they deserved. I will examine how three novels were viewed in their own time as well as how later

interpretations avoided the peace issues they raised. I will develop that paper into an article, which will in turn become the basis of one or two chapters for the book I am proposing, *African American Peace Advocates in the Early Cold War Era*. I have discussed this project with the Editorial Director of the University Press of Mississippi, which publishes a highly-respected series on African American History and Culture, and he speaks to the significance of my work in his support letter. My project aligns with the R2 Roadmap, which includes a goal of increasing faculty research productivity, interdisciplinary scholarship, and “research with relevance.”

The steps laid out in my timeline include completing research in historical archives and getting feedback from peers at different stages. The first step is submitting a conference proposal to the Association for the Study of African American Life and History (ASALH) in March 2020, prior to the grant period. In Summer 2020, I will conduct research in Ann Petry’s papers in Boston with the aim of gaining insight into her background, particularly what led her to an interest in peace. I will also review recent scholarship in peace history and the black freedom movement and reread the three novels I am analyzing for the conference paper.

In the Fall of 2020, I expect to present at ASALH and then incorporate feedback I receive there as I write an article reinterpreting three novels. As I draft the book Introduction and develop chapters on Hansberry, Bass, Killens, and Petry, this will dovetail well with organizing the next meeting of the Peace History Society (PHS), which will take place at Kennesaw State in October 2021. The PHS board agreed to bring it here at my request in part due to Atlanta’s rich civil rights history, so the conference itself will provide an excellent opportunity for scholars to explore the connections between peace and freedom.

Sustainability and Dissemination: By the end of the grant period, I will submit an article on three peace novels to the *Journal of African American History*, draft a book Introduction, and

begin developing several chapters. In January 2021, I can turn to drafting a book proposal and making preparations for a final research trip in Summer 2021. In May/June 2021, I will conduct research at the Johns Hopkins Libraries in Baltimore, gathering information in the William Worthy Papers for a book chapter about his worldview, writing, and activities. During the remainder of the Summer, I will write a chapter on Worthy, a Conclusion, and an Epilogue that makes explicit the resonance of the work of these writers in today's world. I expect to submit the book proposal and manuscript by the end of 2021; depending on how quickly I receive feedback from reviewers, I may be able to complete any needed revisions and submit the final manuscript within a year, by the end of 2022.

I will work with the press to market the book widely and track its reviews, reception, and impact. The process of disseminating the results of my research will have already begun with the ASALH conference paper and submitted article. My scholarly record attests to my qualifications to complete this project and disseminate my research. Not only have I been working on this topic for several years, I have a track record of receiving grants and using that support to conduct research, complete writing projects, and see them through to publication.

This interdisciplinary study is intended to appeal to a number of audiences including scholars of peace history, African American history, American Studies, and Cold War politics. My biographical approach to writers and journalists should interest literature and journalism students and may attract non-academic readers as well. I will judge the success of this project by the extent to which I am able to change the scholarly and popular conversation about important African American writers who were strong proponents of peace *and* freedom.

Citations

^[1] Lorraine Hansberry to “Dear Edythe,” New York City 1951, Lorraine Hansberry Papers, Personal Correspondence, Box 2, Schomburg Center.

^[2] Ossie Davis and Ruby Dee, *With Ossie and Ruby*. New York: William Morrow and Company, 1998, 177.

References

Boehm, Kimberly Phillips. *War! What Is It Good For? Black Freedom Struggles and the U.S. Military from World War II to Iraq*. Chapel Hill, NC: University of North Carolina Press, 2014.

Boyce Davies, Claudia, ed. *Claudia Jones: Beyond Containment*. Banbury, UK: Ayebia Clarke Publishing, 2011.

Gilyard, Keith. *John Oliver Killens: A Life of Black Literary Activism*. Athens, GA: University of Georgia Press, 2011.

Gore, Dayo. *Radicalism at the Crossroads: African American Women Activists in the Cold War*. New York: NYU Press, 2012.

Horne, Gerald. *Black and Red: W. E. B. Du Bois and the Afro-American Response to the Cold War, 1944-1963*. New York: SUNY Press, 1985.

Kelley, Robin D. G. *Race Rebels: Culture, Politics, and the Black Working Class*. New York: The Free Press, 1996.

Lubin, Alex, ed. *Revising the Blueprint: Ann Petry and the Literary Left*. Jackson, MS: University Press of Mississippi, 2007.

Maxwell, William J. *F.B. Eyes: How J. Edgar Hoover's Ghostreaders Framed African American Literature*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, 2015.

Mullen, Bill V. and Smethurst, James. *Left of the Color Line: Race, Radicalism, and Twentieth-Century Literature of the United States*. Chapel Hill, NC: University of North Carolina Press, 2003.

Morgan, Stacy I. *Rethinking Social Realism: African American Art and Literature, 1930-1953*. Athen, GA: University of Georgia Press, 2004.

Ontondi, Vincent J. *African Americans against the Bomb: Nuclear Weapons, Colonialism, and the Black Freedom Movement*. Stanford, CA: Stanford University Press, 2015.

Singh, Nikhil Pal. *Race and America's Long War*. Oakland, CA: University of California Press, 2017.

Wald, Alan M. *American Night: The Literary Left in the Era of the Cold War*. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2012.

Timeline

Before Grant Period:

March-June 2020: 1) Submit proposal on three African American “peace novels” to Association for the Study of African American Life and History (ASALH) for their September 2020 conference: Willard Motley’s *We Fished All Night*, John O. Killens’s *And Then We Heard the Thunder*, and Ann Petry’s *The Narrows*. I am particularly interested in the role of anticomunism in the more negative reception of these novels; 2) Review notes from my previous archival research on Motley and Killens as well as their FBI files and scholarship on the backgrounds of all three authors; 3) Examine book reviews from when the novels were first published.

July-Aug. 2020: 1) Consult Ann Petry’s archival collection at Boston University; 2) review recent scholarship in peace history and the black freedom movement; 3) reread the novels I am analyzing; 4) begin drafting conference paper.

During Grant Period:

Aug.-Sept. 2020: 1) Complete conference paper; 2) present paper at ASALH and gather feedback.

Oct.-Dec. 2020: 1) complete an article on three peace novels; 2) develop an Introduction and several book chapters; 3) lay the groundwork for the Peace History Society conference to be held at Kennesaw State University in Fall 2021.

After Grant Period:

Jan.-May 2021: 1) Submit article to *Journal of African American History*; (2) draft book proposal; 3) continue developing book chapters on Hansberry, Bass, Petry, and Killens; 4) make detailed plans for archival research to be done in the summer.

May/June 2021: 1) Conduct archival research in Baltimore on pacifist correspondent William Worthy; 2) complete final research in New York, at the Schomburg Center (black culture) and the Tamiment Library (oral histories of the left); 3) begin drafting chapter on Worthy.

July-Aug. 2021: 1) Complete chapter on William Worthy; 2) begin drafting Conclusion and Epilogue

Sept.-Dec. 2021: 1) Complete manuscript; 2) oversee Peace History Society conference; 3) submit book proposal and completed draft of manuscript.

Jan. 2022-Dec. 2022: 1) Revise book manuscript; 2) submit final draft; 3) work with press on production and marketing.

CURRICULUM VITAE OF ROBBIE LIEBERMAN

Department of Interdisciplinary Studies
Kennesaw State University
rlieberm@kennesaw.edu

EDUCATION

Ph.D., 1984, University of Michigan, American Culture
M.A., 1981, University of Michigan, American Culture
B.A., 1976, University of California, Berkeley, Division of Interdisciplinary
Studies, Social Sciences

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Kennesaw State University, Chair, Interdisciplinary Studies Department, 2013-2020
Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, Chair, Department of History, 2009-2012
Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, Professor of History, 2001-2013
Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, Associate Professor of History, 1994-2001
Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, Assistant Professor of History, 1991-1994
University of Missouri, Columbia, Director, Peace Studies Program and Adjunct Assistant
Professor of History, 1984-1991
University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Teaching Assistant, 1978-1981

RESEARCH AND CREATIVE ACTIVITY

Research Interests and Specialties:

Social Movements
Peace Studies
Politics and Culture

Current Research Projects:

Peace and Freedom in the Early Cold War Years

Research Honors, Awards, and Grants:

Fellowship at James Weldon Johnson Institute for Advanced Interdisciplinary Studies, Emory University, 2008-2009

Outstanding Scholar Award, College of Liberal Arts, SIU-C, 2007

Gilder-Lehrman Fellowship, Summer 2006

Faculty Seed Grant, Office of Research and Development (ORDA), SIU-C, 2005-2006

Phi Kappa Phi Outstanding Scholar Award, 2004

Dean's Appreciation Award, College of Liberal Arts, SIU-C, 2000

Summer Research Fellowship, "Prairie Power," ORDA, SIU-C, 2000 (\$4,961.)

Special Research Grant, "Prairie Power," ORDA, SIU-C, 1997-1999 (\$20, 676.)

Illinois Humanities Council Grant, Fall 1997

Special Research Grant, "Communism and the American Peace Movement, 1945-1963," ORDA, SIU-C, 1992-1994

Travel to Collections Grant, National Endowment for the Humanities, 1993

Summer Research Fellowship, ORDA, SIU-C, 1993

Deems Taylor Award, American Society of Composers, Authors, and Publishers, 1990 (for "*My Song is My Weapon*")

University of Michigan Dissertation Grant, 1982

University of Michigan, Rackham Fellowship, 1977

PUBLICATIONS AND CREATIVE WORKS

BOOKS

Lineages of the Literary Left: Essays in Honor of Alan M. Wald, edited by Howard Brick, Robbie Lieberman, and Paula Rabinowitz. Maize Books, 2015.

Anticommunism and the African American Freedom Movement, (co-edited with Clarence Lang). Palgrave Macmillan, 2009, 2011.

For the People: A Documentary History of the Struggle for Peace and Justice in the United States (co-edited with Charles P. Howlett), Information Age Publishing, 2009.

History of the American Peace Movement from the Colonial Era to the Present (with Charles P. Howlett), Mellen Press, 2008.

"Prairie Power": Voices of 1960s Midwestern Student Protest University of Missouri Press, 2004, 2019.

The Red Scare Since 1945, edited volume in the series History In Dispute, St. James Press, 2004.

The Strangest Dream: Communism, Anti-Communism, and the U.S. Peace Movement, 1945-1963. Peace and Conflict Resolution series. Syracuse: Syracuse University Press, 2000.

"My Song Is My Weapon:" People's Songs, American Communism and the Politics of Culture, 1930-1950 Music and American Life series. Champaign: University of Illinois Press, 1989, 1995.

PEER-REVIEWED ARTICLES

"Teaching the Vietnam Antiwar Movement: Myths and Misconceptions," *Journal of American History*, Volume 105, Issue 4, March 2019 <https://doi.org/10.1093/jahist/jaz008>

Robert Shaffer & Robbie Lieberman (2016) "Activists, writers, and expansive ideas about peace in the early Cold War years": a roundtable discussion at the annual meeting of the Organization of American Historians, 17 April 2015, St. Louis, Missouri, *American Communist History*, 15:1, 1-34, DOI: 10.1080/14743892.2016.1179427 <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/14743892.2016.1179427>

"Beyond a Chilling Effect: The Impact of FBI Surveillance on African American Literature during the Hoover Era," *American Communist History* 14 (December 2015), 257-262. Review essay, also available online: <http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/14743892.2016.1133771>

Pete Seeger, the 1960s, and US popular culture: a reminiscence, *The Sixties: A Journal of History, Politics and Culture* DOI: 10.1080/17541328.2014.899140 2014

"'Measure Them Right': Lorraine Hansberry and the Struggle for Peace," *Science and Society*, (April 2011), 206-235.

"'We Closed Down the Damn School': The Party Culture and Student Protest at Southern Illinois University during the Vietnam War Era," *Peace and Change* 26 (July 2001), 316-331.

"Communism, Peace Activism, and Civil Liberties: From the Waldorf Conference to the Peekskill Riot," *Journal of American Culture* (Fall 1995), 59-65.

"Does That Make Peace a Bad Word?" The Consequences of American Responses to the Communist Peace Offensive, *Peace and Change* 17 (April 1992), 198-228.

"People's Songs: American Communism and the Politics of Culture," *Radical History Review* 36 (Fall 1986), 63-78.

"The Culture of Politics: Communism, Americanism, and the People's Songs Hootenanny," *South Atlantic Quarterly* 85 (Winter 1986), 78-88.

BOOK CHAPTERS

“The Black and Red Scare in the 20th Century United States,” in *The Palgrave Handbook of Anticommunist Persecutions*, Clemens Six and Christian Gerlach, eds., Palgrave Mcmillan, forthcoming 2020.

“‘You’ll Never Hear Kumbaya the Same Way Again’: The Diffusion and Defusion of a Freedom Song,” in *Songs of Social Protest*, Martin J. Power et al, eds., Rowman & Littlefield, London, England, 2018.

“The Missing Peace: Charlotta Bass and the Vision of the Black Left in the Early Cold War Years,” in *Lineages of the Literary Left*, Howard Brick, Robbie Lieberman, Paula Rabinowitz, ed., Maize Books, 2015.

“The Long Black and Red Scare: Anticommunism and the African American Freedom Struggle,” in *Little Red Scares: Anticommunism and Political Repression in the United States, 1921-1946*, Robert Justin Goldstein, ed., Ashgate Publishing, Surrey, England, 2015.

“‘Put My Name Down’: U.S. Communism and Peace Songs in the Early Cold War Years,” in *Red Strains: Music and Communism outside the Communist Bloc after 1945*, Robert Adlington, ed., Oxford University Press/British Academy, London, 2013.

“‘Peace and Civil Rights Don’t Mix, They Say’: Anticommunism and the Dividing of U.S. Social Movements, 1947-1967,” *Peace Movements in Europe, Japan, and the USA during the Cold War*, Benjamin Ziemann, ed., in the series Frieden und Krieg, Beitrage zur Historischen Friedensforschung, published by Klartext Verlag in Essen, 2007.

Chapters in *History in Dispute, Vol. 19, The Red Scare After 1945*, St. James Press, 2004

“‘It Seemed a Very Local Affair’: The Student Movement at Southern Illinois University at Carbondale,” in *The New Left Revisited*, Buhle and McMillian, eds., Temple University Press, 2003, pp. 11-27.

"Pete Seeger," in *Leaders from the 1960s: A Biographical Sourcebook of American Activism*, David DeLeon, editor, Greenwood Press, 1994, pp. 443-448.

"Memories of Richard Reuss," in *Songs About Work: Papers for Richard A. Reuss*, Archie Green, editor, Indiana University Folklore Institute, 1993, pp. 10-21.

RECENT CONFERENCE ACTIVITY

Organized and presented at roundtable, “Vietnam War Opposition in History and Memory: Expanding Our View,” Peace History Society, Kent State University, October 24-26, 2019.

Organized and presented at panel on Reframing 1960s Protest: Pedagogical Approaches that Cross Boundaries. Presentation: “Martin Luther King’s ‘Triple Evils’: Putting Militarism at the Center of the 1960s,” Southern American Studies Association, March 14-16, 2019.

“Teaching Peace in Contemporary Classrooms: A Roundtable with Textbook and Teaching Authors.” Invited Session at Organization of American Historians, Philadelphia, April 2019.

Chaired panel on Interwar Black International, American Studies Association, Atlanta, November 8, 2018.

Chaired panel, "Can the University Teach Dissent?" American Studies Association, Chicago, November 9, 2017.

"Red Scare, Black Scare: Lasting Effects of the World War I Era on African American Advocacy of Peace and Freedom," Peace History Society, Kansas City, Missouri, October 19-22, 2017.

Chaired panel, "Trauma, Propaganda, and Difference," Peace History Society, Kansas City, Missouri, October 19-22, 2017.

"The Black and Red Scare in the 20th Century United States," Conference on Anticommunist Persecutions in the 20th Century, University of Bern, Switzerland, April 21-23, 2017.

Chaired panel on *The Great Speckled Bird* and Global Opposition to the War in Vietnam, Florida Conference of Historians annual meeting, Punta Gorda, Florida, March 2017.

OTHER PUBLICATIONS:

Letters to the Editor of the *New York Times* published in 2014 and 2015.

"The People's Climate March is Still Changing the Debate on Climate Change," In These Times Online, January 2015.

<http://inthesetimes.com/article/17541/the-peoples-climate-march-is-still-changing-the-debate-on-climate-change> Picked up and published by Daily Kos:

<http://www.dailykos.com/story/2015/01/19/1358847/-Open-thread-for-night-owls-Peoples-Climate-March-still-changing-global-warming-debate>

Co-Editor, special issue of *Peace & Change*, January 2015, "Art, Activism, and the Cultural Politics of Peacemaking."

"Anticommunism and Peace Movements," in *International Encyclopedia of Peace*, Nigel Young, ed., Oxford University Press, 2010.

"Peace and Civil Rights Don't Mix, They Say,' The Challenge of Linking Social Movements during the Cold War," *On-Line Proceedings of Thinking through Action: Twentieth Century Social Movements* conference, Vancouver, 2005.

Entry on Music (2500 words) for *Encyclopedia of U.S. Labor and Working Class History*, 2006.

Co-editor, special issue of *Peace & Change*, July 2004.

"Walking on Eggshells? Teaching Recent U.S. History in the 1990s," OAH Newsletter, November 1995.

OTHER SCHOLARLY ACTIVITY

Numerous reviews of manuscripts for scholarly journals and book publishers, book reviews, etc

Editor of *Peace & Change: A Journal of Peace Research*, 2006-20



To: Tenured Faculty Enhancement Leave Selection Committee

From: Shawn D. Long, Dean, College of Humanities and Social Sciences

Date: January 8, 2020

Re: Tenured Faculty Enhancement Leave Support Letter—Dr. Robbie Lieberman

It is my pleasure to recommend Dr. Robbie Lieberman, Chair, Interdisciplinary Studies Department, for the Tenured Faculty Enhancement Leave Program for next academic year. Dr. Lieberman is returning to faculty in fall 2020 and this leave opportunity will provide her with concentrated time to continue her exciting research program.

Dr. Lieberman's book project is significant. In her narrative, Dr. Lieberman proposes focusing on a group of notable African American writers who integrate both the peace movement and the civil rights movement as an integrative force, rather than two separate movements. A significant group of intellectuals and activists worked for both peace and freedom. Dr. Lieberman's ambitious, yet doable, project seeks to examine biographical and historical material to see what led them to this perspective and to advance theories as to why their peace advocacy received little attention. This is an important and timely project that will shape the contours of future discussions about the peace movement and civil rights movements.

The impact on Dr. Lieberman's professional development cannot be overstated. This will provide her an opportunity to focus more on research after serving 7 years as chair of a complicated department—a department with both undergraduate and graduate programs and a host of joint appointed faculty. This opportunity will also avail her the chance to publish a book that brings several important fields/disciplines into conversation with each other and expands both in terms of the issues they address including African American history, peace history, and American Studies.

Dr. Lieberman has a proven track record of an innate ability to complete goals and outcomes. She has a positive history of using grant support to complete projects, disseminate the results, and draw attention to her projects. Her first book won a national prize; her books continue to be put out in paperback and are still in print. The impact of her work is supported by the external validation from Dr. Craig Gill, editorial director, University of Mississippi Press, a well-respected university press, and from Gerald Horne, a renowned scholar who also provided a letter of support.

Dr. Lieberman has access to the same resources from the department and/or college after leave period as those available to any tenured faculty member (such as travel funding).

Dr. Lieberman's proposal aligns with the university's and college's goals of increasing research productivity of faculty. She will present her work in various venues and make herself available to mentor others in publishing.

I unequivocally support Dr. Lieberman's application for the Tenured Faculty Enhancement Leave. Her project is sound, ground-breaking, and important. Most importantly, Dr. Lieberman has the track record and capacity to complete the tasks during the assigned time, if provided this leave.

Please let me know if I may provide additional information in support of Dr. Lieberman's application.



UNIVERSITY PRESS
OF MISSISSIPPI

November 21, 2019

Dr. Robbie Lieberman, Chair
Department of Interdisciplinary Studies
Kennesaw State University
402 Bartow Avenue, #2208
Social Science Building, suite 2019
Kennesaw, GA 30144

Dear Dr. Lieberman:

On behalf of the University Press of Mississippi, I want to express how delighted we are to be working with you on *African American Peace Advocates in the Early Cold War Era*. I have enjoyed discussing your work and look forward to receiving the formal proposal and manuscript for review. We feel this new book will make a substantial contribution to our list in African American studies, and we will consider it as a candidate for the Margaret Walker Alexander Series in African American Studies. Given your stellar research and previous publications, I am confident that this project will prove to be an important contribution to our list.

With best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Craig Gill', written in a cursive style.

Craig Gill
Director
University Press of Mississippi
cgill@mississippi.edu

24 November 2019

To Whom It May Concern

From: Dr. Gerald Horne, Moores Professor of History & African American Studies University of Houston

I write to endorse with enthusiasm the proposal submitted by Professor Robbie Lieberman, who is without doubt one of the most important and prolific scholars today who engages the potent intersection of peace and civil rights.

What is notably exciting about this project is the proposed illumination of exceedingly important individuals who—sadly—often have been marginalized subsequently. I speak of Charlotta Bass, an African American woman who once ran for Vice President and, in addition, was a premier personality in Cold War Los Angeles. I speak of William Worthy, an African American journalist who travelled globally during this same era and filed dispatches that continue to inform. John Oliver Killens was a celebrated figure during his time, a colleague of Robeson and Du Bois—and a brilliant novelist too—but he too has been lost to history, a dire situation that Professor Lieberman's work will doubtlessly correct. To be sure, Lorraine Hansberry has received attention—of late by Imani Perry of Princeton—but I expect Professor Lieberman, who is more steeped in the field of history to add more texture and detail to the life of this prize winning playwright and activist.

I'm sure I need not remind you of the importance of the topic, especially as embodied in the career of Nobel Laureate, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. More than a half century after his assassination, this issue of peace and civil rights continues to gain resonance, not least because the link between "guns" and "butter" that he illuminated, continues to be one of the most important issues of our time.

Previous Kennesaw State University Funding

As a department chair with a 12-month contract I have not been eligible for internal funding since coming to KSU. I step down as chair as of July 1, 2020, and will return to full-time faculty status.