

CURRICULUM VITAE

Brenda Margaret Farnell

Office: 209H Davenport Hall
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
607 South Mathews Avenue
Urbana, IL 61801
tel: 217 819 7956

Home: 403 E. Scovill Street
Urbana, IL 61801
tel: 217 819 7956

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

- 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/embodied 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

- 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 Karamampas). 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.