

## BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

### Sherri L. Wallace, Ph.D.

Dr. Sherri Wallace, a native of Marché (pronounced “Mar-Shay”), Arkansas, attended the University of Arkansas at Little Rock where she received a Bachelors of Arts degree in Political Science in 1989. Encouraged to apply for the National American Political Science Association’s Annual Ralph Bunch Institute for Black Scholars, she became one of twenty-five national recipients in the summer of 1988, to research issues on African-American Politics at the Louisiana State University and Southern University in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. It was there where she discovered her love for academia and research questions dealing with African-Americans and community economic development.

In 1989, she received recognition as an American Political Science Association Minority Graduate Fellow. She attended Cornell University in Ithaca, New York where she received both her Masters (1993) and Ph.D. (1995) in Government. She received the competitive President’s Council for Cornell Women Fellowship in 1993 to conduct her dissertation research on Minority Participation in the Philadelphia Enterprise Zone Program under her dissertation chair, Dr. Theodore J. Lowi, the renowned J.L. Senior Professor of American Institutions.

Today, she is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Political Science at the University of Louisville where she teaches courses in *American Government*, *Black Social and Political Thought*, *Political Discourse*, *Politics of the Black Community*, *Public Policy*, *State Government*, *Urban Politics* and other related topics. As a Visiting Assistant Professor in the Department of Political Science at the State University of New York at Buffalo in 2001-2002, Dr. Wallace taught four undergraduate seminars, including *Introduction to American Politics*, *Urban Politics*, *Politics & Society*, and *African-American Politics and Political Life*. In the Department of Planning as an Assistant Professor and Research Associate in the Center for Urban Studies from 1996-2001, she taught graduate seminars in *Urban Policy Analysis*, *Community Development Processes* and coordinated the graduate *HUD Community Development Work Study Program Internships*. She also taught an undergraduate introduction course in *Urban Studies*. As a one-year (1995-1996) Visiting Lecturer at Wayne State University in Detroit, she taught *Black Social and Political Thought* in the Department of Africana Studies.

She has researched the political history of the civil rights activist, the late Reverend Dr. Bennett W. Smith, Sr. in Buffalo, New York, and the early social movement of the Valley Christian Improvement Association in Cincinnati, Ohio. In recognition of this work, she received the 2002 *William Wells Brown Award* from the Afro-American Historical Association of the Niagara Frontier, Inc. In addition to her exploratory analyses on African-American business and economic development, she conducts research broadly on community economic development policy issues. She received a plaque of recognition as a *Betty J. Cleckley Minority Issues Research Award Finalist* from the Gerontologist Health Section of the American Public Health Association Meeting in November 2002 for the co-authored paper (with Dr. Lucinda Deason-Howell), “An Examination of the Provision of Culturally Competent Care in Nursing Homes.” She has published book chapters in edited volumes and refereed articles in a variety of scholarly journals such as: *Economic Development Quarterly*, the *Review of Black Political Economy*, the *Journal of Developmental Entrepreneurship*, the *Journal of Community Development Society*, the *Journal of African American Studies*, and the journal of *Afro-Americans in New York Life and History*.

She stays active in the community as a professional consultant on various projects, as a member and volunteer on local boards, committees, and organizations.