

## Curriculum Vitae

### **Dr. Michelle Miller-Adams**

Professor, Department of Political Science, Grand Valley State University  
Senior Researcher, W.E. Upjohn Institute for Employment Research  
2519 Glenwood Drive  
Kalamazoo, MI 49008  
269-385-0436 / 269-501-2453  
[miller-adams@upjohn.org](mailto:miller-adams@upjohn.org) / [millmich@gvsu.edu](mailto:millmich@gvsu.edu)

### ***EDUCATION***

#### **Ph.D., Political Science, Columbia University, 1993-97**

Major field: International Relations, Minor field: Comparative Politics  
Dissertation: *The World Bank in the 1990s: Understanding Institutional Change*

#### **Master of International Affairs, School of International and Public Affairs, Columbia University, 1980-82**

Internships at the U.S. Department of State and Amnesty International

#### **B.A., *magna cum laude*, History, University of California, Santa Barbara, 1976-80**

*Phi Beta Kappa* / *Phi Alpha Theta* (National History Honor Society)  
Volunteer director of Capitol Hill Internship Program  
Internship at Common Cause (Washington, DC)

### ***ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT***

#### **Professor (2017-present); Associate Professor (2010); Assistant Professor (2006) Department of Political Science, Grand Valley State University, Allendale, MI**

- Courses taught: *International Politics; Poverty, Inequality, and U.S. Public Policy; Senior Seminars in Political Science and International Relations*
- Recipient, Russell G. Mawby Fellowship in Philanthropic Studies (2013 & 2014)
- Recipient, Sabbatical funding (2012-13); presented at Sabbatical Showcase (2014)
- Recipient, Pew Teaching Excellence Award (2012)
- Advise International Relations majors and Honors thesis students
- Serve on departmental Alumni, Awards (chair), and Recruitment committees
- Member, Community Engagement Impact Assessment Team (2013-15)
- Participated in GVSU faculty exchanges to Perugia (Italy) and Debrecen (Hungary)

#### **Senior Researcher (2018-present), Research Fellow (2006-18)**

#### **W.E. Upjohn Institute for Employment Research, Kalamazoo, MI**

Carry out research, consult, convene stakeholders, and engage in media and community outreach. Recipient of two W.K. Kellogg Foundation grants to conduct research on the Kalamazoo Promise and place-based scholarships. Results published as *The Power of a Promise: Education and Economic Renewal in Kalamazoo* (2009), *Promise Nation: Transforming Communities Through Place-Based Scholarships* (2015), and related working papers. Served as Co-Project Director for Lumina Foundation grant to create Promise Research Consortium (2014-16); currently Co-Project Director for Strada Education Network grant (2017-19)

#### **Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, 2002-05 Kalamazoo College, Kalamazoo, MI**

- Courses taught: *International Politics, Politics of Latin America, U.S. Foreign Policy, International Political Economy, International Development*
- Supervised Senior Individualized Projects (undergraduate theses)
- Advised international students and served as mentor to undergraduates

**Principal Investigator, Western Michigan University, 1997-2000**

Recipient of a three-year grant from the Ford Foundation to write a book on asset-building strategies for fighting poverty. Research was carried out from 1997 through 2001 at multiple sites around the United States. Results of research published as *Owning Up: Poverty, Assets, and the American Dream* (Brookings Institution Press, 2002).

**Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, 2001-02**

**Adjunct Professor 1998-2004, Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, MI**

- Undergraduate courses taught: *International Relations, U.S. Foreign Policy, Latin American Politics*
- Graduate seminars taught to M.A. Ph.D., and Masters of International Development Administration (MIDA) students: *The World Bank, Poverty and Social Policy*
- Served on doctoral dissertation committee and on thesis committees for undergraduate honors students

**OTHER PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYMENT**

**Consultant, W.K. Kellogg Foundation, Battle Creek, MI, 2004-10**

Provided support to the office of the Senior Vice President for Programs and Battle Creek Programming area with research, writing, strategic planning, and preparation of reports.

**Writer and Editor, Kalamazoo, MI, 1994-2004**

Principal author of publications for the Century Foundation and the Inter-American Dialogue. Development and editing of publications for the Americas Society, the City University of New York, Harvard University's Civil Rights Project, the Haynes Foundation, Salomon Brothers, the Century Foundation, the U.S. Institute of Peace, and others.

**Manager, Digital Publishing Department, 1994-98**

**The University of Michigan Press, Ann Arbor, MI**

Responsible for developing electronic publishing program for scholarly press. Acquired projects, presented proposals to executive committee, supervised full-time and freelance staff, and managed editorial and production process digital publications. Facilitator of press-wide strategic planning process.

**Vice President for Programs, 1990-94**

**The Twentieth Century Fund/Century Foundation, New York, NY**

As senior member of program staff, supervised projects on U.S. foreign policy, economic policy, and Latin America at non-profit public policy research foundation. Responsible for all phases of program development and execution, including identification of potential authors, formulation of project ideas, presentation of proposals to Board of Trustees, supervision of authors, and dissemination of research to policymakers and the press.

**Vice President, Research Department 1986-90; Analyst 1984-86**

**Salomon Brothers Inc, New York, NY**

Analyzed politics and economics of foreign countries, public sector borrowers, and multilateral development institutions. Developed credit and market views and communicated these to sales force, traders, and customers worldwide.

**Associate, Multinational Strategies, Inc., New York, NY, 1984-86**

Researched, wrote, and presented reports to corporate and nonprofit clients on international political and economic developments.

## **SCHOLARLY PUBLICATIONS**

### **Books**

*Promise Nation: Transforming Communities Through Place-Based Scholarships*, Kalamazoo, MI: The W.E. Upjohn Institute (WE Focus), 2015

*The Power of a Promise: Education and Economic Renewal in Kalamazoo*, Kalamazoo, MI: The W.E. Upjohn Institute, 2009

*Owning Up: Poverty, Assets, and the American Dream*. Washington, DC: The Brookings Institution Press, 2002

*The World Bank: New Agendas in a Changing World*. London: Routledge, 1999

### **Other publications**

"Promise Programs Database." Co-created with Brad Hershbein and Bridget Timmeney. W.E. Upjohn Institute for Employment Research, November 2017.

"Understanding the Philanthropic Character of Communities: Insights from Two West Michigan Communities." Co-authored with Grace Denny, Teri Behrens, and Michael Moody. Dorothy A. Johnson Center for Philanthropy, May 2017.

"Promise Monitoring and Evaluation Framework" Co-created with Jennifer Iriti. Web-based tool for Promise stakeholders created with funding from the Lumina Foundation. 2016.

"The Road Toward K-12 Excellence in Michigan: How an Upgraded Financing System Can Better Support Enhanced Student Achievement." Co-authored with Kevin Hollenbeck, Timothy Bartik, Randall Eberts, and Brad Hershbein. W.E. Upjohn Institute for Employment Research, 2015.

"The Kalamazoo Promise and Changing Perceptions of the Kalamazoo Public Schools" (with Jenna Fiore), Policy Brief 2013-016, W.E. Upjohn Institute, December 2013

"The Impact of the Kalamazoo Promise on College Choice" (with Bridget Timmeney), Policy Brief 2013-014, W.E. Upjohn Institute, February 2013

"The Value of Universal Eligibility in Promise Scholarship Programs," *Employment Research*, W.E. Upjohn Institute, October 2011

"A Simple Gift: The Impact of the Kalamazoo Promise on Economic Revitalization," *Employment Research*, W.E. Upjohn Institute, Volume 13, Number 3, 2006

"Breaking Into the Bank: The Challenge of Gaining Meaningful Access to the World Bank" (with Charles T. Myers). Chapter in *Gaining Access to Research Sites: The Inside Story*, Martha S. Feldman et al., eds., Walnut Creek, CA: Altamira Press, 2003

"Financial Markets in 1986: The Paradox of Liberalization." Chapter in *Italian Politics: A Review*, vol. 2, Raffaella Nanetti, et al., eds. London and New York: Pinter Publishers, 1988

"The World Bank and Private Capital" (with John F.H. Purcell). Chapter in *Between Two Worlds:*

*The World Bank's Next Decade*, Richard E. Feinberg, ed. Washington, DC: Overseas Development Council, 1986

## **CONFERENCE PAPERS**

“The Evolution of the Promise Scholarship Movement: Policy Diffusion, Reinvention, and Critical Design Issues,” paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Educational Research Association (AERA), Chicago, April 2015

“The Economic Development Impact of Place-Based Scholarship Programs: Initial Results from Kalamazoo, Michigan,” paper presented at the 71<sup>st</sup> Midwest Political Science Association Conference, Chicago, April 2013

“The Importance of Universality in Promise Programs,” paper presented at the APPAM Fall Research Conference, Washington, DC, November 2011

“Can Universal, Place-Based Scholarships Reduce Inequality? Lessons from Kalamazoo, Michigan,” paper presented at the 68<sup>th</sup> Midwest Political Science Association Conference, Chicago, April 2010

“Reducing Inequality Through Universal College Scholarships: Lessons from the Kalamazoo Promise,” paper presented at the annual conference of the Latin American Studies Association, Rio de Janeiro, June 2009

“The Diffusion of Policy Innovation: The Case of the Kalamazoo Promise,” paper presented at the 67<sup>th</sup> Midwest Political Science Association Conference, Chicago, April 2009

## **SELECTED PRESENTATIONS**

“Promise Scholarship Programs and Their Impact’ (with Bridget Timmene), National College Access Network National Conference, Pittsburgh, PA, September 24, 2018.

“Improvement Efforts in Higher Education” (with Martha Kanter), Carnegie Foundation Summit on Improvement in Education, San Francisco, CA, April 3-5, 2018.

“Taking Stock, Moving Forward: Learning from Promise Research” (with Jennifer Iriti), PromiseNet 2017 Research Plenary, Kalamazoo, MI, November 2017.

“Learning from a Decade of College Promise Scholarships.” Co-presenter at Upjohn Institute webinar, October 2017.

“Evidence for Program Design and Evaluation,” White House Community College Convening, Washington, DC, October 2016

“The Impact of Place-Based Scholarship Programs: What Do We Know?” (with Jennifer Iriti), PromiseNet 2016 Research Plenary, Washington, DC, October 2016

“College Promise: Transforming Communities through Place-Based Scholarships,” Keynote speech at Michigan Community College Association Fall Board Meeting, Grand Rapids, MI, October 2016

“Growth, Scope, and Impact of College Promise Programs,” National Council of State Directors of Community Colleges, Mackinac Island, MI, August 2016

“Growth, Scope, and Impact of the College Promise Movement” (with Jennifer Iriti), Educational Testing Service Summit on College Affordability, Princeton, NJ, June 2016

## ***SELECTED PRESENTATIONS, continued***

Remarks to Education Scholars Convening on Community College Research, The White House, January 2016

“What Do We Know About Promise Programs?” organizer and presenter at plenary session of PromiseNet 2015, Kalamazoo, MI, November 2015

“The Kalamazoo Promise: The Ten-Year Record,” presentation to the Michigan Political Leadership Program, sponsored by the Institute for Public Policy and Social Research, Michigan State University, Kalamazoo, July 2015

“Promise Scholarships: A College Access Agenda,” Alliance for Excellent Education Webinar, Washington, DC, May 2015

“The Evolution of the Promise Movement and the Research Challenge,” presentation at PromiseNet 2014, New Haven, CT, November 2015

“The Kalamazoo Promise: Progress and Challenges,” presentation to the Michigan Political Leadership Program, sponsored by the Institute for Public Policy and Social Research, Michigan State University, Kalamazoo, July 2014

“Support and Accountability: Developing Research Projects for Millennials,” presentation and facilitation at CLAS Teaching Roundtable, Allendale, November 2013

“What do we know? The impact of Promise programs to date,” facilitator and member of planning committee, PromiseNet 2013, Kalamazoo, November 2013

“An Introduction to Promise Scholarship Programs” and “Community-Level Effects of the Kalamazoo Promise,” Lumina Foundation convening of Promise researchers, Indianapolis, October 2013

“The Kalamazoo Promise: Progress and Challenges,” invited presentation for senior administrators at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, August 2013

“The Kalamazoo Promise and the Revitalization of an Urban School District,” presentation at *Looking Back, Moving Forward: A conference on race, class, opportunity and school boundaries in the Richmond region*, Richmond, VA, March 2013

“Promise Scholarship Programs: Building Assets for Community Change,” presentation to the Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland Policy Summit on Housing, Human Capital, and Inequality, June 2012

“Can Universal Scholarship Programs Reduce Inequality? Lessons from Kalamazoo,” Martin Luther King, Jr. Commemoration at Grand Valley State University, January 2011

“Community Transformation Through Place-Based Scholarships” (with Janice Brown and Brandy Johnson), presentation at national College Board Forum, Washington, DC, October 2010

“The Kalamazoo Promise and the Path to College Readiness” and “Universal, Place-Based Scholarship Programs: A New Model for College Access” (with Shelley Strickland), presentations at Michigan Pre-College and Youth Outreach Conference, Ann Arbor, November 2009

“Changing a Community's College Culture with a Promise: The Transformative Impact of the Kalamazoo Promise and the Potential for Promise Zones,” 14th Annual Governor’s Education Summit, Lansing, April 2009

“The Kalamazoo Promise as a Tool for Economic Development,” Keynote Address at Michigan Conference of Political Scientists 39<sup>th</sup> annual meeting, Kalamazoo, October 2007

**Additional speeches / presentations on the Kalamazoo Promise (2006-18):** City Club of Cleveland; W.K. Kellogg Foundation Board of Trustees; Pi Sigma Alpha, Grand Valley State University (Allendale); Kalamazoo Area Labor Management (KALM); Kalamazoo Community Foundation; Kalamazoo College; Kalamazoo Public Library; Kiwanis Club of Greater Kalamazoo; Institute of Government and Politics, Western Michigan University; Rotary Clubs of Kalamazoo, Frankfort, and Gull Lake; Rotary District International Conference; Hadassah, Dorothy Slavin Chapter; Council on Michigan Foundations Program Officers Network; National meeting of lead program officers of private foundations (Detroit); Pew Charitable Trusts; and others.

**Media interviews (2006-18) – *Print (national):*** Associated Press, The Atlantic, Chronicle of Higher Education, Christian Science Monitor, The Economist, Education Week, Inside Higher Ed, Market Watch, Moneywatch, New Republic, New York Times, New York Times Magazine, Politico, Style Weekly, Time, USA Today, Wall Street Journal. ***Print (state/local):*** Bridge Magazine, Buffalo Business First, Chicago Tribune, Cleveland Plain Dealer, Crain’s Detroit Business, Detroit Free Press, Detroit News, Grand Rapids Press, Kalamazoo Gazette, LaCrosse Tribune, Michigan Education Report, New Haven Register, Pittsburgh Business Times, Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, Southwest Michigan’s Second Wave, Washington Times, Windsor Star, Wisconsin State Journal, Yale Daily News. ***Television/radio:*** AlJazeera America, Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, KCBS (San Francisco), MSNBC, Marketplace Morning Report, Michigan Radio, Michigan’s Big Show, Minnesota Public Radio, WGVU (Grand Rapids), WKZO (Kalamazoo), WMUK-FM (Kalamazoo), WOOD-TV (Grand Rapids), WZZM-TV (Kalamazoo). ***Internet:*** Next City, Southwest Michigan’s Second Wave

**Consultation with stakeholder groups designing Promise programs (2009-18):** Pasadena (CA); Washington (DC); Baltimore (MD); Battle Creek, Buchanan, Charlevoix, Ewart, Grand Rapids, Lansing, Saranac (MI); Kansas City (MO); Jackson (MS); Newark (NJ); Indianapolis (IN), Toledo and Springs Valley (OH); Hamilton (Ontario); Lancaster (PA); Austin, Corpus Christi, McKinney (TX); Lynchburg, Richmond (VA); Seattle (WA); Beloit, LaCrosse (WI)

### ***SELECTED SERVICE TO PROFESSION AND COMMUNITY***

Member of Steering Committee, College Promise Research Network

Associate Editor, *Economic Development Quarterly*

Peer reviewer for academic journals: *Educational Researcher*, *Evaluation Review*, *International Journal of Educational Development*, *Journal of Urban Economics*, and *Poverty & Public Policy*.

PromiseNet annual conference planning and participation (2008-19)

First Day Shoe Fund, Board Member (2011-present) and Chair of Fund Development Committee (2014-2018), Kalamazoo, MI

Wellspring/Cori Terry and Dancers, Board Member, Kalamazoo, MI, (2012 - present)