

Nya Kathleen-Marie Mbock
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EDUCATION

Ph.D. University of Pennsylvania | Annenberg School for Communication | 2022 - present

Focus: Communications

Research Interest: Effective Leadership Program Development

Institutional GPA:

BA Portland State University | University Honors College | 2019 - 2022

Major: Communications

Institutional GPA: 3.76

Southern Oregon University | 2018 - 2019

Major: Business

Institutional GPA: 3.71

Clackamas Community College | 2016 - 2018

General Education Requirements

Institutional GPA: 3.98

HONORS & AWARDS

McNair Scholars Fellow	2019 - 2020
Autzen Foundation Scholars Award	2020 - 2021
Portland State University President's Diversity Award	2021
Portland State University Dean's List	2020 - 2022
Portland State University President's List	2020 - 2022
University of Pennsylvania Fontaine Society	2022 - present

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Student Body President | Portland State University | 2021 - 2022

- Act as the official representative of the student body, both within the University and the larger Portland community.
- Assume responsibility for the proper functioning of all governance processes of ASPSU as well as sit on or chair most major boards across the University.
- Establish relationships with all the micro and macro stakeholders across campus to ensure funding, organizational success, and University marketing, recruitment, and retention efforts.
- Responsible for the publication of an annual quarterly compilation of Student Senate resolutions, Constitution and Judicial Review Board rulings, Student Fee Committee rules and procedures, and all other rules, policies, and procedures of ASPSU affecting the student body including quarterly reporting on Oregon Student Alliance activity and decisions with a focus on overall benefits to the PSU student body.
- Work closely with the Oregon Student Alliance, Oregon Legislature,

Programming Associate | Women's Center for Leadership | Portland State University | 2021 - 2022

- Project manager and consultant for the Center professional staff team.
- Assisted in developing and planning the National Education for Women's Leadership of Oregon 2022 program.

Presentations and Outreach Coordinator | Women's Resource Center | Portland State University | 2021 - 2022

- Plan various events, both internally and externally for the Women's Resource Center.
- Manage and handle the Women's Resource Centers' operational tasks, social media, and assist with the budget reviewal process.
- Represent the Women's Resource Center at events, gatherings, and student orientations.

Student Ambassador | Portland State University | 2020 - 2022

- Represent Portland State University at events, gatherings, orientations, and commencement.
- Lead multiple campus tours with groups of up to 35 prospective students weekly.
- Attend weekly round-table meetings with various Student Ambassadors on best leadership practices, highs and lows of the week, and student engagement ideas.
- Lead student panels and speak with prospective students on experiences, university life, and resources.
- Present at conventions, alumni dinners, and honor ceremonies.
- Manage the admissions front desk and field incoming questions from prospective students and parents about the campus, programs, and PSU student experience.

Ex-Officio Member | Board of Trustees | Portland State University | 2021 - 2022

Ex-Officio Member | Faculty Senate | Portland State University | 2021 - 2022

Ex-Officio Member | Academic Program Reduction and Curricular Adjustment (APRCA) | Portland State University | 2021 - 2022

Hope Center Committee Member | Institutional Capacity-Building Cohort (ICBC) | 2021 - 2022

Committee & Hiring Member | Basic Needs Committee | Portland State University | 2021 - 2022

Committee Member | Retention & Persistence Committee | Portland State University | 2021 - 2022

Committee Member | Honorary Degree Selection Committee | Portland State University | 2021 - 2022

Network Member | Student Communications Network | Portland State University | 2021 - 2022

Task Force Member | Global Diversity and Inclusion Task Force | Portland State University | 2021 - 2022

Council Member | Diversity Action Council | Portland State University | 2021 - 2022

Council Member | Student's First Leadership Council | Portland State University | 2021 - 2022

Committee Member | Educational Leadership Service Award Committee | Portland State University | 2021 - 2022

Board Member | Student and Leadership Programming Advisory Board | Portland State University | 2021 - 2022

Committee Member | Athletics Future Committee (AFC) | Portland State University | 2021 - 2022

Committee Member | Defining University Course Methodology | Portland State University | 2021 - 2022

Task Force Member | Student Voice House Bill 2590 Task Force | Oregon Legislative Assembly | 2021 - 2022

Director | Internationalization Council | Portland State University | 2020 - 2022

- Represent the international student body within council meetings as the Student Director.
- Attend regular meetings centered on overarching international student success within Portland State.
- Meet with administrators and faculty from across the campus to discuss international student retention and participation.
- Create workshop events geared towards faculty on how to further include international students in class discourse.
- Spearhead a virtual peer-mentorship program for international students who are needing one-on-one support during COVID-19.
- Create orientation and training materials for student leaders entering the Peer-Mentorship program as Mentors.
- Recruit international students as prospective mentees who are looking to get involved with the program.

Advisory Board Member | SNAP Education & Training Program (STEP) | Portland State University | 2020 - 2022

- Assist with piloting a food-insecurity program that selects 50 student candidates as they gain skills and access training to increase their ability to gain employment. Students receive individual case management services focused on career and internship readiness, training, and education opportunities.
- Assist with establishing vetting and selection protocols for student candidates hoping to join the STEP program.
- Represent and conduct recruitment on behalf of the STEP program across campus.

Peer Mentor Project Coordinator | Women's Resource Center | Portland State University | 2020 - 2021

- Point of contact and management for a team of mentor and mentee pairings to help develop student support and community.
- Plan various internal and external termly events from the Women's Resource Center.
- Hire, train, and onboard Women's Resource Center mentors and help pair them accordingly with mentee partners. Handle anywhere from 10-15 mentor/mentee relationships.
- Manage and handle the Women's Resource Centers' operational tasks and duties.
- Represent the Women's Resource Center at events, gatherings, and student orientations.

Associated Students of Portland State University Representative | Oregon Student Alliance International Student Support Campaign | 2020 - 2021

- Attend virtual meetings focused on international student support during COVID-19.
- Discuss how to Alleviate emotional damage caused by federally mandated protocols that directly disadvantaged international students.
- Work across the state with partnering student governments within the Oregon Student Alliance to improve international student representation and resources.

Student Liaison | University Honors College | Portland State University | 2020 - 2021

- Work with the Honors College to connect with student groups and administrative boards across campus.
- Promotion and events for the Honors College.
- Coordinate between the Honors College and various other departments within Portland State.

Council Member | University Honors College Advisory Council | Portland State University | 2020 - 2021

- Represent the student body within administrative council meetings as a Student Council Member.
- Attend regular meetings centered around the Honors College student success and retention
- Review annual budget allocations within the college, suggest recommendations and include a student perspective within budgetary decisions.
- Discuss community involvement within the Honors College and forms of engagement amongst faculty and students.

Council Member | CIRRI International Organization | Portland State University | 2020 - 2021

- Worked on two action committees focused on unpacking racial justice issues with international students, and how to support international students emotionally through the COVID-19 epidemic.
- Meet with administrators to discuss international student demographics, retention, and recruitment.
- Work with Portland State admissions to develop strategies to interest international students in enrollment.

Council Member | Cultural Resource Center | Portland State University | 2020 - 2021

- Review annual and term budget allocations across the various resource centers within Portland State.
- Discuss how to work more closely with students and support them by creating virtual spaces for them to connect in.
- Design program structures geared towards generating more interest in the cultural resource centers.

Co-Chair | Ad-Hoc Committee | Portland State University | 2020 - 2021

- Co-chaired an ad-hoc committee focused on generating funds for the general student emergency fund towards COVID-19 financial relief efforts early Spring Term. (Completed)
 - Led weekly meetings that discussed the hardships COVID-19 has presented
 - Met with students, advocated on their behalf to the Faculty Senate, and fundraised to generate more financial support.
 - Worked closely with the International Department to allocate additional funds for international students, who weren't eligible for federal aid.
- Co-chair an ad-hoc committee focused on supporting international students financially and emotionally. (In-progress)
 - Meet weekly with fellow co-chairs to improve international student advocacy across campus and within a virtual space.
 - Created campaigns geared towards educating international, DACA, and general students about their legal rights within the United States.
 - Held open forums to discuss international student concerns and how best to support them.

International Affairs Director | Associated Students of Portland State University | Portland State University | 2019 - 2021

- Promote diplomacy and unity between domestic and international students at Portland State University.
- Perform outreach and advocacy on behalf of international students across campus.
- Assist international students in gaining access to resources and help to further educate all PSU students on their rights and responsibilities.
- Direct a team of four Senators and two Interns.
- Assign tasks, delegate work amongst Senators, and facilitate weekly meetings that focus on addressing the issues and needs of the student body.

Student Senator | Associated Students of Portland State University | Portland State University | 2019 - 2020

- Member of the Multicultural Affairs and International Affairs Committee.
- Voted on critical budget allocations, student fees, and university social conflicts.
- Represented the student body within the Senate, and championed student rights throughout meetings.

Senator | On-Campus Housing Committee | Southern Oregon University | 2018 - 2019

- Learned Robert's Rules of Order and edited meeting minutes.
- Selected as the Freshman and Sophomore dorm representative.
- Advocated for recreational spaces, updated laundromat services, and water filtration at the drinking fountains within the dorm.

PUBLICATIONS***Undergraduate Thesis***

Mbock, N. (2022). A study on how African immigrants experience being Black in America. *University Honors Thesis*.

Portland State University; Percy, Stephen L.; Lambert, Ame; and Mbock, Nya, "Time to Act: Plan for Equity & Racial Justice 2021 - 2024" (2021). Global Diversity and Inclusion Publications and Presentations. 6. https://pdxscholar.library.pdx.edu/president_diversity_pubs/6

PRESENTATIONS

Honorary Speaker, Time to Act: Equity Plan and Scorecard Launch, Portland State University, Portland, OR, 2021.

- [Equity Speech Opening Remarks](#)

Presenter, "The Role Student Leadership Plays In Mentoring"

Annual Peer Mentor Training Conference in University Studies, Portland State University, Portland, OR, 2021.

- Designed and presented an interactive, 60-minute breakout session on leadership and mentorship for a conference with over 75+ undergraduate and graduate mentors to provide training on teaching, learning, and best practices for supporting students.

Slideshow Presentation, Mbock, N. "A study on how African immigrants experience being Black in America." *Ronald E. McNair Symposium, Portland, Oregon, 2020.*

TEDx Speaker, "Accepting the Unacceptable: Living Through a Pandemic."

TEDxPortlandStateUniversity, Portland, Oregon, 2020.

- [Nya Mbock: Accepting the Unacceptable: Living Through a Pandemic](#)

Thesis Presentation, Mbock, N. "A study on how African immigrants experience being Black in America." *PSU Thesis Presentation, Honors Commons, 2022.*

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CONFERENCES ATTENDED

NAFSA Region 1 Virtual Conference	2020
Portland State Annual Student Leadership Conference	2020
CIVSA Student Development Institute	2021
International Youth Leadership Conference	2021
NASPA Western Regional Conference	2021

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Member | Phi Kappa Phi | Portland State University | 2021

Member | Lambda Pi Eta Honor Society | Portland State University | 2019 - 2022

Member | National Society of Collegiate Scholars | Portland State University | 2019 - 2022

Member | National Communication Association | Portland State University | 2019 - present

Member | Phi Theta Kappa | Clackamas Community College | 2016 - 2018

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Ronald E. McNair Scholars Program | Scholar | PSU | 2020

- Student participant in NIH-funded program that connects underrepresented students to careers in research.
- Attended weekly seminars regarding work in research presented by experts in the field.
- Met regularly with academic advisors and presented research experiences at public forums.
- Synthesized research articles in a literature review to guide current research.
- Conducted literature reviews of social science research surrounding African immigration to the United States.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Freshmen Inquiry (FRINQ) Peer Mentor | University Studies | Portland State University | 2021 - 2022

- Plan and facilitate six weekly 60-minute mentor sessions for the Freshman Inquiry course related to Portland's culture, history, and exploration.
- The course is taught to over 45 Freshmen students. Pedagogy focuses on flexible lesson plans, performing multiple roles for students, and approaching topics through various lenses.
- Grade papers, offer additional supplemental lessons, support students during my office hours, and help students familiarize themselves with Portland State's academic environment and the overall rigor of higher education.
- Bridging faculty and students to help build a conducive learning environment. Partner closely with a faculty counterpart in creatively implementing course objectives, materials, and syllabus content.

Research Methods In Communications (COMM-311) | Learning Assistant | PSU | 2020

- Graded course quizzes, exams, and created learning materials to support the curriculum.
- Converted language, guidelines, and expectations to a digital platform
- Offered office hours and outside class time to help students with course content retention
- Supported students through curriculum, additional learning materials, and virtual support.

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Culture, Society and Communication, Persuasive Communication, Global Communication, Visual Communication, Risk Communication, Interpersonal Communication

TRAINING

Critical Mentorship Training | University Studies Department | 2021

CITI Training | 2020

Peer Mentorship Training | Women's Resource Center | 2020

Leadership Training | Student Ambassador Program | 2020

LANGUAGES

Native proficiency in English

Intermediate proficiency in French

Elementary proficiency in Bassa

REFERENCES

Michele Toppe, Ph.D.

- Academic Advisor. She recommended me for the Student Ambassadorship, and the Women In Leadership program. Michele is a close confidante, an exemplary advisor, and a mentor for life.
- toppe@pdx.edu
- 503-725-3822

Tanya Romaniuk, Ph.D.

- Academic Advisor. She recommended me for the Student Ambassadorship, and the Women In Leadership program. Dr. Romaniuk is a close confidante, an exemplary advisor, and a mentor for life.
- romaniuk@pdx.edu
- 503-725-3822

Brianne Suldovsky, Ph.D.

- McNair advisor for my original research. Advisor for my Honors College undergraduate thesis paper. I was offered a Learning Assistant position for COMM 311 after being the first student in that course to score perfect marks on all four of the labs she assigned to the class. Dr. Suldovsky is also a dear friend, a forever mentor, and the woman who inspired me to continue to pursue research.
- brisul33@pdx.edu
- 503-725-8085

Mollie Nouwen, Ph.D.

- Professor of UNST 233C Global Perspectives (Latin America). Worked closely with her in and out of the classroom.
- Mnouwen@pdx.edu
- 503-725-5048

Brooke Shea

- McNair Teaching Fellow. Graduate student focused on Speech and Hearing Pathology at Portland State University. Assisted me in finalizing my original research topic, picking out graduate programs, and offered lots of leadership opportunities to me within McNair to help guide discussion and assist with the McNair course. Brooke has always seen potential in me and has allowed me to cultivate my own success with her experience and guidance as foundational support to that success.
- bshea@pdx.edu
- 503-358-5480