



Dr. Karen D. Johnson-Webb is Associate Professor of Geography at Bowling Green State University (BGSU). She earned her BA and MA in Geography from Michigan State University (MSU), becoming the first African American woman to earn a Master of Arts degree from the Department of Geography. Dr. Judy Olson and Dr. Bruce Pigozzi played an integral role in her years at MSU. She earned her Ph.D. in Geography at the University of North Carolina – Chapel Hill. Dr. James H. Johnson (also an MSU alum) was her dissertation committee chair.

Since arriving at BGSU in 2000, she has been involved in many local and regional groups, committees, boards, and initiatives. These include the advisory board of Partners in Context & Community and chair of its diversity committee, the executive board of the Africana Faculty & Staff Caucus for eight years as treasurer, she is currently a member of Toledo-Lucas County Getting to One, a regional initiative devoted to decreasing black infant mortality in Ohio. Most recently, she is serving on the Digital Strategy and Data Analytics Committee and the Digital Strategy Sub-Committee of United Way of Greater Toledo.

Johnson-Webb was an early supporter of the Advancing Geography Through Diversity Program (AGTDP) – a geography graduate student recruitment, retention, support, and engagement initiative to address racial and ethnic underrepresentation, founded at the Department of Geography, Environment and Spatial Sciences at MSU. She has been active in the Association of American Geographers (AAG) since graduate school. Currently she is East Lakes Regional Councilor and on the AAG Council Executive Committee as Secretary. She has served as Chair and Past Chair of the East Lakes Division of AAG. She chaired the planning committee of the East Lakes Division of AAG Conference in 2020, which was one of the first to go virtual. She was chosen to be on the AAG COVID Rapid Response Group as a member of the Regions Subcommittee. Her team wrote a proposal that was funded by the AAG to support the regional divisions. She is a member of Gamma Theta Upsilon (GTU), the international honor society of geography. She has served as chapter sponsor of the Upsilon chapter at BGSU, as East lakes Councilor, 2nd Vice President and is currently 1st Vice President of GTU.

Johnson-Webb has been the recipient of the National Volunteer of the Year by the Board of Directors of Rural Opportunities, Inc. which is an agency that works with the Latinx Community

in NW Ohio. In 2019, she was awarded the BGSU Black Excellence Faculty Award.

She is the author and co-author of two books: *Recruiting Hispanic Labor: Immigrants in Non-Traditional*, and *Population: Problems, Concepts, and Prospects*.

Her research has covered a variety of topics related to blacks in NW Ohio. She has studied a formerly all-black Ohio town called Carthegena, black rural landscapes, the achievement gap, and currently the intersections of structural racism and black infant mortality in NW Ohio. She is Co-I on a grant titled, *Stronger Pathways to Infant Vitality Through Participant Research* (\$266,642). She is currently Co-I on a grant titled, *Stronger Pathways to Infant Vitality Through Participant Research* (\$266,642).