

Felix Milton Bivens

496 Shelbyville Highway ~ Fayetteville, Tennessee 37334 USA
001- 931-993-6327 ~ felixbivens@empyreanresearch.org

Summary

PhD in international development studies and Masters in social policy and planning for developing countries. Background in rural community development, political organizing, service-learning in higher education, community university partnerships, organizational management, process facilitation and participatory research methods. Current research interests in learning and teaching for transformation in higher education; community-led action research; community-based research; cognitive justice, knowledge democracy, applied indigenous knowledge and transformative knowledge; and using systems and complexity analysis for evaluating processes of institutional and social change. Research, teaching and facilitation experience in the North America, Western Europe, Eastern Europe, Central America, Africa, South Asia and East Asia.

Educational Qualifications

- July 2011 DPhil, Institute of Development Studies (IDS)¹, University of Sussex. Brighton, United Kingdom. Title of dissertation: *Higher Education as Social Change: Seeking a Systemic Institutional Pedagogy of Social Change*. Supervisors: John Gaventa (IDS/Coady Institute), Peter Taylor (IDS/International Development Research Centre), Angie Hart (University of Brighton). Examiners: Budd Hall (University of Victoria/UNESCO) and Danny Burns (IDS).
- Dec. 2006 MSc, Social Policy and Planning in Developing Countries; London School of Economics. London, United Kingdom. Title of thesis: *Institutions of Higher Development: Using NGO Management Frameworks to Improve the Effectiveness of University Sponsored Development Projects*. Supervisor: Anthony Hall (LSE/World Bank).
- May 1999 BA, English Literature and Political Science (honors); University of South, Sewanee, Tennessee. Supervisors: Thomas Carlson and Charles Brockett. (With extensive additional coursework completed in the economics department in 2004-2005).

¹ In 2009, the University of Pennsylvania's Think Tanks and Civil Societies Program ranked IDS as the 4th most influential policy institute on international development issues in the world, following Brookings, ODI and the Center for Global Development. See <http://www.ony.unu.edu/2009%20Global%20Go%20To%20Think%20Tank%20Rankings%20%28TT%20Index%29%20last%20version.pdf>, pg 41.

Employment History

- 2012-Present Founder and Director of Emphyrean Research, Fayetteville, Tennessee, USA.
- 2015 Adjunct Faculty for social enterprise courses in Appalachia and India at Northeastern University, Boston, Massachusetts, USA.
- 2014 Associate Dean of Academic Affairs and Research at the Future Generations Graduate School, Franklin, West Virginia, USA.
- 2013 Adjunct Professor at the Future Generations Graduate School, Franklin, West Virginia, USA.
- 2011-2012 Acting Assistant Dean of Students at Sewanee: The University of the South, Sewanee, Tennessee, USA.
- 2007-2011 Research Assistant at the Institute of Development Studies, Brighton, United Kingdom.
- 2006 Royal College of Surgeon's Library, London, United Kingdom.
- 2001 – 2005 Assistant Director of Outreach and Community Engagement Programs at the University of the South, Sewanee, Tennessee, USA.
- 1999 – 2000 Field Organizer, Gore-Lieberman Presidential Campaign. USA.
- 1997 Vice Presidential Intern, Office of the Vice President. The White House, Washington, DC, USA.
- 1994 Chief Floor Page, House Page Program. U.S. House of Representatives, Washington, DC, USA.

Consulting, Facilitation and Research

- 2015 Facilitator of reflection and partnership building workshop for community engaged faculty and community partners at Georgia College in Milledgeville, Georgia, USA.
- 2014 Co-facilitator of institutionalizing community engagement workshop at Lakehead University and Northern Ontario School of Medicine (NOSM) in Thunder Bay, Canada.
- 2014 Facilitator of capacity building workshop between Georgia College and the neighboring Harrisburg community in Milledgeville, Georgia, USA.

- 2014 Institutional change consultant for the Mary Amelia Douglas-Whited Community Women's Health Education Center (MAC) at Tulane University in New Orleans, LA, USA.
- 2014 Facilitator of workshop on 'Institutionalizing Community Engagement' at Durban Institute of Technology (DUT) in Durban, South Africa.
- 2013 Facilitator of Community Led Action Research (CLAR) workshop for community leaders in the Inanda township of Durban supported by the University of Kwa-Zulu Natal and the INK Area Based Development program in Durban, South Africa.
- 2013 Institutional change consultant to the Institute of Community Engaged Scholarship (ICES) at the University of Guelph, Canada.
- 2013-2014 Monitoring, evaluation and learning consultant with Participate Participatory Research Network at IDS, Brighton, United Kingdom.
- 2013 Lead facilitator for five day end of research reflection workshop with Participate Participatory Research Network at IDS, Brighton, United Kingdom.
- 2012-2013 Action research trainer and evaluation design consultant for the Community-Led Action Research (CLAR) Institute at the Clearfork Community Institute, Eagan, Tennessee, USA.
- 2012 Action research consultant for the 'Valuing Volunteering' research collaboration between IDS and the Volunteer Service Organization (VSO) documenting impacts of volunteering in Kenya, Mozambique, Ghana, China, Nepal and the Philippines. London, United Kingdom.
- 2012 Facilitator of organizational management and change workshop with CORPlus, Sofia, Bulgaria.
- 2012 Program design consultant for the research practicum for the MA in Conservation and Applied Community Change at the Future Generations Graduate School, Franklin, West Virginia, USA.
- 2012 Facilitator of faculty reflective practice workshop at the Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning (CETL) at Georgia College, Milledgeville, Georgia, USA.
- 2012 Organizational change consultant for the Clearfork Community Institute, Eagan, Tennessee, USA.

- 2011 Six week organizational learning and change consultancy with Casa del Tercer Mundo, Estelí, Nicaragua.
- 2009—2010 Consultant/Participant with the National Coordinating Centre for Public Engagement's National Action Research Project, Bristol, United Kingdom.
- 2010 Facilitator of Falling Whistles organizational learning and reflection workshop, University of the South, Sewanee, Tennessee, USA.
- 2009 Research assistant for IDS' feasibility study for the Macarthur Foundation's proposed 'Masters in Development Practice,' IDS, Brighton, United Kingdom.
- 2009 Co-facilitator of IDS' internal organizational change workshops regarding the Department for International Development's 'Managing Knowledge for Development' project, IDS, Brighton, United Kingdom.
- 2009 Lead facilitator of international workshop on 'Transformative Education in Developing and Fragile Contexts,' IDS, Brighton, United Kingdom.
- 2008 Rapporteur for international research consortium on 'University Education and Community Change.' Community Learning Partnership, Washington, DC, USA.
- 2007 Rapporteur for international research meeting on 'Transformative Human Rights Learning' sponsored by Equal-in-Rights, Utrecht, The Netherlands.

Teaching and Research Supervision

- 2015 Co-instructor of 'Social Entrepreneurship and Sustainable Development in India' month-long field study course in Kerala with Northeastern University in Boston, MA, USA.
- 2015 Co-instructor of Social Entrepreneurship field study program in central Appalachia with Northeastern University in Boston, MA, USA.
- 2013-2014 Instructor for 'Practicum I: Research Design and Methods', 'Practicum II: Monitoring and Evaluation', 'Reflective Practice', 'Facilitation Skills for Practitioners' and 'Synthesis and Integration' courses for MA Applied Community Change with concentrations in conservation and peacebuilding. Online with field studies teaching in India, Nepal, Namibia and US. Future Generations Graduate School, Franklin, West Virginia, USA.

- 2013-2014 Practicum coordinator for Future Generations MA program. Faculty instructor to two cohorts of 20 MA students during their first year of research practicum process. Advised seven 2nd year MA students through to the completion of their practica.
- 2012-2014 Co-facilitator and student mentor for the Lilly Summer Vocational Discernment Institute, Sewanee, Tennessee, USA.
- 2013 Guest lecturer in ‘Partnerships & Multi-stakeholder Environments’ course at Coady International Institute, Antigonish, Nova Scotia, Canada.
- 2012 Leader of facilitation skills training for undergraduate students, Sewanee, Tennessee, USA.
- 2011 Designer of development studies curriculum for Casa Del Tercer Mundo’s international volunteer program for students sponsored by the German development ministry Bundesministerium für wirtschaftliche Zusammenarbeit und Entwicklung (BMZ). Estelí, Nicaragua.
- 2011 Guest lecturer in ‘Student Activism’ sociology capstone course at Georgia College State University, Milledgeville, Georgia, USA.
- 2008-2010 Supervisor of term-paper and MA thesis writing for IDS students from multiple MA programs, including: ‘Development Studies’; ‘Science, Society and Development’; and ‘Participation, Power and Social Change.’ Brighton, United Kingdom.
- 2009 Guest Lecturer in ‘Change Management’ course for National Health Service (NHS) staff in the School of Nursing and Social Work at the University of Brighton, Brighton, United Kingdom.
- 2008 Guest Lecturer in IDS MA program in ‘Participation, Power and Social Change,’ IDS, Brighton, United Kingdom.
- 2008 Guest Lecturer in ‘Microfinance Institutions in South Asia’ course at University of the South, Sewanee, Tennessee, USA.
- 2005 English Language Lecturer, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, Beijing, China.
- 2003-2005 Assistant Coordinator of ‘Summer-in-South Asia’ economics program in Bangladesh, University of the South, Sewanee, Tennessee, USA.

2003-2005 Assistant Coordinator of 'Summer-in-China' economics program, University of
(and 2008) the South, Sewanee, Tennessee, USA.

2004 Coordinator of 'Summer-in-Russia' service program, University of the South,
Sewanee, Tennessee, USA.

Publications and Reports

2014 Bivens, F. 'Networked knowledge as networked power: recovering and mobilising transformative knowledge through Participate.' In *Knowledge from the Margins: An anthology from a global network on participatory practice and policy influence*. T. Shahrokh and J. Wheeler, eds. Institute of Development Studies, Brighton.

2014 Bivens, F. 'University Social Engagement as Space for Resistance.' In *Social Justice and the University*, J. Shefner, H. Dahms, R. Jones, A. Jalata, eds. Palgrave Macmillan, New York.

2014 Gaventa, J. and F. Bivens. 'Knowledge democracy, cognitive justice, and the role of universities.' In *Higher Education in the World 5: Knowledge, Engagement and Higher Education: Contributing to Social Change*. Palgrave Macmillan, New York.

2014 Gaventa, J. and F. Bivens. 'Co-Constructing Knowledge for Social Justice: Lessons from an International Research Collaboration.' In *Social Justice and the University*, J. Shefner, H. Dahms, R. Jones, A. Jalata, eds. Palgrave Macmillan, New York.

2013 Bivens, F. 'Curricular and Pedagogical Impacts of Community-Based Research: Experiences from Four Higher Education Institutions.' In *Knowledge, Democracy and Action: Community University Partnerships in Global Perspectives*, B. Hall, R. Tandon, E. Jackson and J. Fontan, eds. Manchester University Press, Manchester.

2010 Bivens, F. and P. Taylor. 'Learning Democracy through Dialogue: Re-imagining the Potential of Higher Education Institutions to Support Process of Social Change.' In *Learning and Practicing Democracy: International Initiatives and Perspectives*, E. Pinnington and D. Schugurensky, eds. Cambridge Scholars Publishing, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

2009 Bivens, F., K. Moriarty and P. Taylor. 'Transformative Education and Its Potential for Changing the Lives of Children in Disempowering Contexts.' *IDS Bulletin 40.1*. IDS, Brighton, United Kingdom.

- 2009 Bivens, F., K. Moriarty, T. Okitsu and P. Taylor. 'Quality Education for Transformation and Social Change.' Internal report for Save the Children UK, London, United Kingdom.
- 2008 Bivens, F. 'Visioning a Human Rights Approach to Higher Education.' *GUNI Newsletter*. Global University Network for Innovation, Barcelona, Spain.
- 2008 Bivens, F. 'Understanding Institutional Change for Enabling Social Change in Higher Education Institutions: A Methodology.' Report for the University Education and Community Change Working Group, Community Learning Partnership, Washington, DC, USA.
- 2008 Bivens, F., K. Moriarty and P. Taylor 'The MDGs and Primary Education.' *News at IDS*. Brighton, United Kingdom.
- 2008 Bivens, F. 'Lessons Learnt in Research Communications: Impacts of the 10% Strategy—Success, Challenges and Next Steps.' Report from DfID's Lesson-Learning Workshop. Department for International Development, London, United Kingdom.
- 2007 Bivens, F. and E. Sydenham. 'Awakening the Power of Human Rights: From Theory to Action.' Report for Equal-in-Rights in Utrecht, The Netherlands.

Conference Keynotes and Invited Lectures

- 2014 'Building an engaged university.' Invited lecture at Lakehead University and Northern Ontario School of Medicine (NOSM) in Thunder Bay, Canada.
- 2014 Invited lecture and community workshop on 'Rethinking program evaluation' hosted by the Mary Amelia Douglas-Whited Community Women's Health Education Center (MAC) at Tulane University in New Orleans, LA, USA.
- 2013 Invited lecture 'Room to Maneuver in the Practice of Community Engagement' at the University of Kwa-Zulu Natal in Durban, South Africa.
- 2013 Keynote speaker at the 5th International Symposium on Service Learning (ISSL) at Stellenbosch University in Stellenbosch, South Africa.
- 2012 'Embracing Complexity: NGOs in the New Order of Innovation and Disruption.' Invited lecture and workshop for civil society organizations in Sofia, Bulgaria, sponsored by CORPlus. Sofia, Bulgaria.

- 2012 Facilitator for end-of-conference lessons-learned and synthesis discussion at the ‘Global Mountain Regions’ conference at the University of Kentucky, Lexington, Kentucky, USA.
- 2012 Keynote at graduation of the Community Led Action Research Institute (CLARI) Practicum. Clearfork Community Institute, Eagan, Tennessee, USA.
- 2012 ‘University-Community Partnerships and Complexity Theory: Part 2’ Invited lecture at Community University Partnership Programme’s International Seminar Series at the University of Brighton, Brighton, England.
- 2011 ‘University-Community Partnerships and Complexity Theory.’ Invited lecture at Community University Partnership Programme’s International Seminar Series at the University of Brighton, Brighton, England.

Conference Presentations

- 2015 ‘Reflective Practice as Andragogical Method for Catalyzing Individual, Organizational and Community Change’. Presentation at 6th International Symposium of Service Learning at the University of Indianapolis, Indiana, USA.
- 2015 ‘Changing Campuses to be Better Community Partners: Institutional Strategies for Effective Engagement with Appalachian Communities.’ Panel discussant at the 2015 Appalachian Studies Association (ASA) Conference at East Tennessee University in Johnson City, Tennessee, USA.
- 2014 ‘Building research capacity in community organizations through engagement.’ Presentation at the 2014 CUVIC Conference in Victoria, British Columbia, Canada.
- 2013 ‘A Community Researches Itself.’ Presentation at the Community-University Expo Conference at the Memorial University, Newfoundland, Canada.
- 2011 ‘University Social Engagement as Space for Resistance and Revitalization.’ Presentation at ‘The University and Social Justice’ conference at University of Tennessee, Knoxville, USA.
- 2008 ‘Learning Democracy Through Dialogue: Re-imagining the Potential of Higher Education Institutions to Support Process of Social Change.’ Presentation at the ‘Learning and Practicing Democracy’ conference at the University of Toronto, Toronto, Canada.

Affiliations

- 2014-Present Alumni Ambassador for the United States for the Institute of Development Studies.
- 2011-Present Vice President and Treasurer of Just Connections, a network of universities, researchers and community organizations working to support collaborations between universities and communities in the Appalachian region.
- 2009-2011 Organizing Committee Member of The Change Alliance, a global network of international development practitioners working to support and understand systemic change through action research and the application of complexity-based methodologies. Based at Center for Development Innovation, Wageningen University, The Netherlands.

References

- John Gaventa Director of the Coady International Institute and VP for International Development, Saint Francis Xavier University, Nova Scotia, Canada. Email: jgaventa@stfx.ca
- Peter Taylor Senior Program Manager for the Think Tank Initiative at the International Development Research Centre, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada. Email: ptaylor@idrc.ca
- Angie Hart Academic Director of the Community University Partnership Programme (Cupp) and Professor of Child, Family and Community Health in the School of Nursing and Midwifery, University of Brighton, Brighton, United Kingdom. Email: a.hart@brighton.ac.uk
- Eric Hartman Dean of Students, The University of the South, Sewanee, Tennessee, United States. Email: ehartman@sewanee.edu