

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

Feminist Activism Awardee Campus Visit

Visitation Window: May-December 2018

2017 Awardee: Professor Tressie McMillan Cottom



We *Sociologists for Women in Society* are delighted to acknowledge our 2017 Feminist Activism Awardee Dr. Tressie Cottom who is prepared to visit a U. S. campus in the coming months. She will deliver a talk entitled: ***Lower Ed in the Digital Society***.

An overview of her talk is as follows: Through sharing examples of activism that garnered her the SWS 2017 Feminist Activism Award, Dr. Cottom will engage participants in conversations about the influence of for-profit colleges on higher education and indeed all of U. S. society. She will address the growth in college enrollment, costs/expenditures and debt associated with these schools, and the role of such schools in producing interlocking institutional pathways that affect students' lives. She will address how for-profit colleges contribute to rather than alleviate socio-economic and racial inequality. She will review concrete examples of students whose lives have been affected by association with for-profit higher education organizations. Besides her talk, she will gladly meet with students, faculty, and community members who are interested in or involved with social and economic justice in higher education.

Sociologists for Women in Society will pay all transportation costs of Dr. Cottom's visit. The host campus is asked to provide room and board, that is, a place to stay for one or two days and the provision of meals.

If you are interested in hosting a campus visit, submit an **application by May 1, 2018**, by email to Distinguished Feminist Activist Award Committee Chair **Patricia Yancey Martin (pmartin@fsu.edu)**. An application should include the following:

1. An explanation of your interest in hosting Dr. Cottom's visit and the merits of awarding a campus visitation to your school
2. A description of activities you will arrange for the Awardee's visit on your campus.
3. The number of days you would like the awardee to stay & tentative dates, with alternatives
4. The audience to which the presentation will be targeted
5. A description of how local financial obligations will be met

The selection committee will look especially favorably on campuses committed to gaining the widest possible audience for these visits. While not required, plans to do one or more of the following will enhance the case for the applicant:

- collaboration with other departments or programs on campus
- multiple-campus cooperation
- community partnerships

Tressie McMillan Cottom, Ph. D. is an Assistant Professor of Sociology at Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond. Her specialties are education, inequality and race and her recent book, *Lower Ed: The Troubling Rise of For-Profit Colleges in the New Economy* (2017), has received national and international acclaim. She is co-editor of two books on technological change, inequality and institutions including *Digital Sociologies* (2016, UK Bristol Policy Press) and *For-Profit Universities: The Shifting Landscape of Marketized Higher Education* (2017, Palgrave MacMillan). Professor Cottom serves on multiple academic and philanthropic boards and regularly publishes on issues of inequality, work, higher education and technology. She is also a dynamic lecturer.

