

Charles “Tré” L. Watkins III, Ph.D.**Assistant Professor of Political Science****Point Loma Nazarene University**www.TreWatkins.com**PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY**

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

<i>Assistant Professor of Political Science</i> Department of History and Political Science Point Loma Nazarene University	2026 - Present
<i>Lecturer II</i> School of Leadership and Education Sciences University of San Diego	2023 - Present
<i>Adjunct Professor</i> School of Humanities, Arts, and Public Engagement School of Behavioral and Social Sciences Point Loma Nazarene University	2021 - 2026

EDUCATION

Ph.D. EDUCATION FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE University of San Diego	2024
Dissertation: <i>From Counterspaces to Community: A Qualitative Case Study Analysis of Black Community Making at a PWI</i> <i>*Recipient of the Doctor Joi Spencer Diversity Champion Dissertation of the Year Award</i> <i>Dissertation Committee: Joseph Lathan, Ph.D., Dr. Elizabeth Butler, Ph.D., Dr. Antar Tichavakunda, Ph.D.</i>	
M.A. SOCIOLOGY Arizona State University Thesis: <i>Advancing Black Male Student Success in Higher Education</i>	2018
B.A. PSYCHOLOGY California State University San Bernardino	2010

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Teacher of Record

Point Loma Nazarene University

2022 - Present

Department of History & Political Science

POL 1001: Understanding the Political World

POL 2070: Scope and Methods of Political Science

POL 3070: Comparative Politics

POL 4055: Protests & Social Movements in World Politics

POL 4073: Senior Seminar in Political Science

School of Behavioral and Social Sciences (Adjunct)

SWF 3006: Research Basics

SOC 1001: Introduction to Sociology

SOC 4076: Senior Seminar in Sociology

School of Humanities, Arts, and Public Engagement (Adjunct)

PBA 2070: Scope and Methods of Political Science

PBA 4050: Capstone: Cross-Sector Collaborations

Other

IDS 2090: Called to Career: Career Readiness and Exploration

University of San Diego

2023 - Present

School of Leadership and Education Sciences (Lecturer II)

EDUC 523: Qualitative Methods in Educational Research

EDUC 520: Social Justice & Education Equity

EDTE 515S-01S: Education Research Methods

EDTE 514: Educational Research Methods

EDUC 550: Capstone Seminar

Additional Academic Experience

University of San Diego

2025-2026

Changemaker Faculty Fellow

University of San Diego

Teacher Assistant - Dr. Joseph Lathan

2022 - 2024

EDUC 520: Social Justice & Education Equity

EDUC 560: Orientation

EDUC 661: Intro to Doctoral Study Year 1

EDUC 662: Intro to Doctoral Study Year 2

University of San Diego - Center for Restorative Justice

Graduate Assistant: Digital & Marketing Communications

2020-2021

Fullerton College

2018

Umoja Center Outreach Coordinator

Arizona State University

2017 - 2018

Teachers Assistant - T. Denny Sanford School of Social and Family Dynamics

SOC 501: Social Statistics
FAS 598: Marriage and Families
SOC 391: Research Methods
SOC 390: Social Statistics
CDE 531: Theoretical Issues in Child Development

California State University Monterey Bay
Graduate Intern, Department of Greek Life

2017-2018

RESEARCH

Interests

Sociology of Place, Race and Higher Education, Sociology of Work, Black Placemaking, Social Media and Digital Activism, Black Geographies, Sociology of Sport, Critical Race Theory, Research Methods, Ethnography and Qualitative Inquiry, and Career Readiness.

Research Conducted

Point Loma Nazarene University (2025 -) - *Preparing Students for What's Next: Faculty Roles in Career Readiness Education*

University of San Diego (2023-2024)—From *Counterspaces to Community: A Qualitative Case Study Analysis of Black Community Making at a PWI* [Dissertation]

**Recipient of the Doctor Joi Spencer Diversity Champion Dissertation of the Year Award*
Dissertation Committee: Joseph Lathan, Ph.D., Dr. Elizabeth Butler, Ph.D., Dr. Antar Tichavakunda, Ph.D.

Books

Tichavakunda, A.A., Hollingsworth, J., & Watkins III, C.L. Towards a green book in higher education.
Edited Book: Under Contract with SUNY Press.

Peer-Reviewed Articles

Watkins III, C.L., & Cooper, D. (2026). More than a space: Black placemaking and the post-pandemic purpose of the BRC. *Journal of Student Affairs Research and Practice*

Manuscripts in Preparation

Watkins III, C.L. Black liberatory spaces: Strategies for thriving amidst legislative attacks on higher education. Target Journal: *Journal of Higher Education*

Tichavakunda, A.A., Hollingsworth, J., & Watkins III, C.L. Navigating place and space in higher education. Target Journal: *Review of Higher Education*.

Watkins III, C.L. The Black Student Union today: Placemaking, advocacy, and belonging in contemporary higher education. Target Journal: *The Journal of Negro Education*

Watkins III, C.L. The digital underground: Rethinking Black student space and place through technology. Target Journal: *New Media and Society*

Book Chapters

Watkins III, C.L., & Streets, H. (Forthcoming). The souls of Black college students: Unveiling Black technocultural placemaking in higher education. In Tichavakunda, A.A., Hollingsworth, J., & Watkins III, C.L. Towards a green book in higher education. Edited Book: Under Contract with SUNY Press.

Watkins III, C.L. (Forthcoming). Building digital counterspaces: Black campus activism and #HashtagActivism. In Marks, S. Reclaiming Space. Edited Book: Under Contract with Myers Education Press.

Peer-Reviewed Conference Presentations

Watkins III, C.L. & Urquart, A. (2026). *Faith, Formation, and the Future of Work: Faculty Perspectives on Career Readiness*. American Sociological Association Annual Meeting [Roundtable Session]. New York, NY.

Watkins III, C.L. (2026). *The Possibilities of a "Green Book" Approach to Higher Education*. AERA Annual Meeting [Symposium]. Los Angeles, CA, April 8-12.

Watkins III, C.L., & Cooper, D. (2025). *Behind the Veil: Black Placemaking and Belonging in the Wake of Dual Pandemics*. Association of Black Sociologists Annual Conference [Roundtable Session]. Memphis, TN, October 11-14.

Watkins III, C.L. (2025). *Navigating Perilous Times: Black Liberatory Spaces and Placemaking in Higher Education*. University of San Diego SOLES 8th Annual Diversity, Inclusion and Social Justice Excellence Showcase "Embracing Our Lived Experiences". San Diego, CA.

Watkins III, C.L. (2025). *Studying, Race, Space, and Agency in Higher Education: A Black Placemaking Approach to Understanding Black Campus Communities*. AERA Annual Meeting. Denver, CO.

Tichavakunda, A.A., Hollingsworth, J., & Watkins III, C.L. (2025). *Black Students Navigating a Predominantly White Campus: A Critical Spatial Approach*. AERA Annual Meeting. Denver, CO

Watkins III, C.L., Alkatib, P., & Cloyes, K. (2024). *No longer in the opt-in business: How Point Loma Nazarene University integrated career competencies into the curricular experience*. National Association of Colleges and Employers (NACE) Competency Symposium. November 14.

Watkins III, C.L. & Alkatib, P. (2024). *Feeding 4000 with 4: How PLNU scaled career services to meet students' needs*. The Collective 2024 Annual Virtual Conference. November 21.

Watkins III, C.L. & Alkatib, P. (2024). *Reimagining career services for 2040: A strategic blueprint for transforming university career services*. Mountain Pacific Association of Colleges and Employers (MPACE) Annual Conference. San Diego, CA, December 4-6.

SUMMER 2026

- Watkins III, C.L. (2024). *From counterspaces to community: How members of a Black Student Union find, build, and maintain community at a PWI*. [Division H 2024 Early Career/Graduate Student In-Progress Research Roundtable]. AERA Annual Meeting. Philadelphia, PA, April 10-14
- Watkins III, C.L. (2023). *From counterspaces to community: A qualitative case study analysis of Black community making at a PWI* [Paper session]. Association of Black Sociologists Annual Conference. Philadelphia, PA, August 17-19.
- Watkins III, C.L. (2022). *#HashtagActivism: Black campus activism in the digital age* [Roundtable session]. AERA Annual Meeting. San Diego, CA, April 13-16.
- Watkins III, C.L. (2021). *#HashtagJustice: Black campus activism in the digital age* [Virtual Presentation]. USD SOLES Diversity, Inclusions, Social Justice, Excellence Showcase. San Diego, CA, April 12.

Public Scholarship

- Watkins III, C.L., & Alkatib, P. (2025). *Moving toward a career ecosystem at PLNU*. National Association of Colleges and Employers Journal.
<https://naceweb.org/career-development/organizational-structure/moving-toward-a-career-ecosystem-at-plnu>
- Watkins III, C.L., & Carlton, E. (Hosts). (2023, May 15). Accessibility and higher education [Video podcast episode. In *Justice For All*. <https://vimeo.com/827124865>
- Winston, A. & Watkins III, C. L. (2022, February). *From “social exclusion” to social equity: How we get there*. Cannabis Business Times.
<https://www.cannabisbusinesstimes.com/news/from-social-exclusion-to-social-equity-how-we-get-there/>

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Director Talent Development, Career Services
Point Loma Nazarene University

2021 - 2026

As the Director of Talent Development, Career Services, I led the development and execution of a comprehensive, university-wide career readiness strategy that supports over 5,000 undergraduate and graduate students through both in-person and online services. I designed and managed career curricula integrated with academic programs to enhance student outcomes, and I developed two career-focused, for-credit courses and online learning modules that are incorporated into virtual classes. I oversaw a team of four full-time employees and three student interns, managed a \$300,000 operating budget, and have secured over \$150,000 in grant funding in collaboration with other departments to support career development initiatives. Working closely with the Provost, Dean of Educational Effectiveness, and other university leaders, I coordinated campus-wide Career Services efforts with a focus on equity, access, and scalability through a three-pronged approach: student engagement, talent development, and strategic partnerships.

Project Coordinator
The Blue Heart Foundation

2020 - 2022

<i>Public Relations Coordinator</i> MC Brand Communications	SUMMER 2026 2019 - 2020
<i>Associate Director of Saturday Science Academy</i> Charles R. Drew University	2018 - 2019
<i>Volunteer Engagement Manager</i> United Way Monterey County	2016 - 2018
<i>General Manager</i> CrossFit Monterey	2013 - 2015
<i>Assistant Branch Manager</i> Enterprise Rent-A-Car	2010 - 2012
Grants	

NetVUE Professional Development Grant (Point Loma Nazarene University)	2025
Secured \$68,000 grant to integrate vocational exploration and discernment activities across academic courses, enhancing students' engagement with career development.	
Award amount: \$68,000	

SERVICE

Point Loma Nazarene University <i>Black Community Council</i>	2022 - Present
University of San Diego <i>Qualifying Exam Reviewer</i>	2025
Reviewer for the Education for Social Justice (EDSJ) doctoral program, evaluating qualifying exams to assess doctoral students' research readiness, critical thinking, and alignment with program expectations.	
<i>SOLES Mentor</i>	2021 - 2024
<i>SOLES Ambassador</i>	2021 - 2024
San Diego State University <i>Alumni Advisor, Lambda Iota Chapter Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity Inc.</i>	2020 - Present

Professional Affiliations

Association of Black Sociologists	American Association of Blacks in Higher Education
American Educational Research Association	American Sociological Association

Community Affiliations

Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc., Lambda Iota Sigma Chapter *Member*
 San Diego Lactation Equity Alliance *Board Member*
 Blue Heart Foundation *Past Board Member*
 United Way of Monterey County Emerging Leaders Society *Past Chair*
 YMCA of the Monterey Peninsula, *Past Board Member*

NAMC Diversity & Social Equity Committee *Past Board Member*