



October 19, 2023

Mahala Dyer Stewart
Assistant Professor
Department of Sociology
Hamilton College
Clinton, NY 13323

Dear Dr. Stewart:

I am pleased to appoint you as an external associate of Penn State's Population Research Institute (PRI). As you know, PRI is an interdisciplinary research center that encourages, organizes and supports outstanding research and training in the population sciences. PRI is an intellectual community that provides opportunities for exchange, activities that promote strategic research themes, assistance in the development of new research projects, and research services that support externally funded projects. Our hope is that PRI will provide an additional intellectual environment to help maximize your research productivity and spark new collaborations going forward.

The Population Infrastructure Program under which we are funded requires that centers identify a small number of innovative research initiatives and use their resources to foster high levels of engagement and collaboration among center researchers to address those initiatives. It is also important that center researchers demonstrate involvement with the field of demography. Your research expertise fits well within PRI's primary research areas that focus on reproductive health and health disparities.

I hope you will participate in PRI-sponsored events. Brown Bag talks and working groups that are available remotely and we look forward welcoming you for in-person visits as you work with PRI Penn State researchers. We are striving to be a focused, vital, and active center as well as to provide infrastructure to facilitate collaborative interdisciplinary research.

Your external appointment as a PRI Research Affiliate is for three years, after which you may choose to renew your affiliation. Please feel free to contact me if I can answer any questions or assist you in any way.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Van Hook, Director
Population Research Institute