**Invitation FAQs for Tressie McMillan Cottom**

I really enjoy speaking with colleagues, students, and publics about my work. Usually, academic departments invite me to talk about for-profit higher education (Lower Ed), credentialism in the new economy, race/class/gender inequalities in the new economy, digital sociology, or public scholarship. Occasionally, students and community groups also ask me to come visit. This FAQ sheet helps me put together a session for you with the minimal amount of bureaucratic snafus. If you’re considering inviting me, thanks so much. I look forward.

**What would you like me to talk about?**

Generally, I speak about Lower Ed, Digital Sociologies, inequalities in the new economy and public scholarship as that is what I have researched and published on. Given my work in higher education, universities on occasion also ask me to talk about diversity matters. It helps me a lot if I know what you’d like me to do and in what format you’d like it done. A talk is generally easier for me to agree to. Seminars and workshops and the like involve more conversation and work to put together. Therefore, I accept more talk invitations than I do seminars and workshops so that I can do my best at them.

**When would you like me to visit?**

I am an active tenure-track faculty member. That means I teach! As students are always my first priority, I will generally work invitations around my usual T/Th teaching schedule. Afternoon and evening talks are great because it allows airlines time to delay my flight, lose my bags and re-route me and still arrive in time to honor my commitment.

**How will the visit go?**

I can conform to most institutional preferences. I do request a car or taxi from and to the airport rather than a ride share with a faculty member or student. This tends to be least stressful for all involved and makes it likely that I’ll make the flight that will, again, probably be delayed, rerouted and/or the only one going to Richmond that day.

I do not have any life-threatening allergies but I do limit dairy and require time to eat regularly throughout the day to manage my blood sugar. A hotel near breakfast options that I can access and a way to store small foodstuffs overnight helps tremendously.

I can do any mic or tech set-up or none at all. Generally, I come prepared with any presentation materials on two forms of media, don’t assume there will be wifi although it’s great if there is, and can generally project in small rooms.