

Giselle Liza Anatol

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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS:

Professor of English, University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS (August 2016 – present)
Associate Professor of English, University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS (August 2005 – July 2016)
Assistant Professor of English, University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS (August 1998 – July 2005)
Assistant Professor of English, Spelman College, Atlanta, GA (August 2002 – May 2003)

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICE:

Director, Hall Center for the Humanities, University of Kansas (March 2024 – present)
Interim Director (August 2022 – March 2024)
Director, J. Wayne & Elsie M. Gunn Center for the Study of SF, Univ. of Kansas (Jan. 2022 – Aug. 2023)
President, Association of Caribbean Women Writers & Scholars (ACWWS) (Fall 2016 – Sum. 2021)
Vice President (Fall 2014 – Summer 2016)
Immediate Past President/Executive Board (Fall 2021 – Sum. 2023)
Director of Graduate Studies, Univ. of Kansas Department of English (July 2012 – June 2019)
Interim Director (July – Dec. 2021)

EDUCATION:

University of Pennsylvania, Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, Philadelphia, PA
Doctor of Philosophy, English (August 1998)
Master of Arts, English (August 1994)
Yale University, College of Arts and Sciences, New Haven, CT
Bachelor of Arts, English (May 1992)

HONORS & AWARDS:

Louise Byrd Graduate Educator Award, University of Kansas (December 2023)
Mabel S. Fry Teaching Award, KU Dept. of English (May 2022, May 2011)
Frances L. Stiefel Teaching Professorship in English, University of Kansas (2021-2024)
Ned Fleming Award for Excellence in Teaching, University of Kansas (2016)
KU's University Scholarly Achievement Award (Fall 2014) – nominee
"KU's Women of Distinction" annual calendar (2013-2014) – honoree
KU Center for Teaching Excellence *Best Practices Institute* (May 2010)
KU H.O.P.E. (Honor for Outstanding Progressive Educator) Award (2008) – semifinalist
Conger-Gabel Teaching Professorship, KU Dept. of English (2001-2004)

SUCCESSFUL FELLOWSHIPS & GRANTS:

AAI Art & Humanities Grant from the U. of Kansas Achievement & Assessment Institute [for “Imagining Our Futures” Storytelling Game & Art Sessions w/ AfroRithm Futures Group, Apr 2024] (Fall 2023)
“Humanities for All” Grant from the Humanities Kansas Council [for *Haunting Humanities*] (Fall 2023)
Hall Family Foundation Grant for AI & Digital Literacy Educators Summit [June 2023] – co-PIs Katie Conrad, Sean Kamperman, and Ann Rowland
Digital Humanities Fellowship from the Univ. of Kansas Institute for Digital Research in the Humanities [for Gunn CSSF digital database project] (2022-2023)
Hall Center for the Humanities Resident Faculty Fellowship, University of Kansas (Spring 2023 – postponed)
“Humanities for All” Grant from the Humanities Kansas Council [for “An Evening with Angelline Bouley,” *The Paper Plains Literary Festival*, April 2022] (Spring 2022)
“Humanities for All” Grant from the Humanities Kansas Council [for *The Unexpected Caribbean* Symposium, October 18-20, 2018] – co-PI Prof. Cécile Accilien, KU (Spring 2018)
KU Research Excellence Fund Award, 2017-2018 [for *The Unexpected Caribbean* Symposium]
Sabbatical leave, University of Kansas (Fall 2016, Fall 2006)
Shirley Cundiff Haines & Jordan L. Haines Faculty Research Fellowship, U. of Kansas (2013-2014)
KU Hall Center for the Humanities Revise & Resubmit Grant [for NEH Summer Institute Proposal] (2012)
Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, Fellowship in Residence (May – June 2012)
KU General Research Fund Award (FY 2021, FY 2007, FY 2006, FY 2005, FY 2001)
KU Office of International Programs Internationalizing the Curriculum Grant (Summer 2000)

PUBLICATIONS:

Scholarly Monograph:

The Things That Fly in the Night: Female Vampires in Literature of the Circum-Caribbean and African Diaspora (Rutgers University Press, 2015).

Edited Scholarly Collections:

Special issue of the *American Studies Journal*: *Across Global Souths: Asian Migrations through the U.S. South and the Circum-Caribbean*. Vol. 61, Iss. 3. Co-edited with Joo-Ok Kim (Fall 2022)
Special issue of the *Women, Gender, and Families of Color Journal*: “*The Unexpected Caribbean*.” Vol. 9, No. 2. Co-edited with Cécile Accilien (Fall 2021)
Special issue of the *Women, Gender, and Families of Color Journal*: “*The Unexpected Caribbean*.” Vol. 9, No. 1. Co-edited with Cécile Accilien (Spring 2021)
The Routledge Handbook to the Culture and Media of the Americas. Co-ed. w/ Wilfried Raussert, Sebastian Thies, Sarah Corona Berkin, and José Carlos Lozano (Routledge, 2020)
Bringing Light to Twilight: Perspectives on the Pop Culture Phenomenon (Palgrave Macmillan, 2011)
Reading Harry Potter Again: New Critical Essays (ABC-CLIO/Praeger, 2009)
Reading Harry Potter: Critical Essays (Praeger/Greenwood Press, 2003)

Creative Writing:

“The Jockey’s Ghost” in *The Haunted States of America* (Macmillan 2024) – middle-grade short story
Small-Girl Toni and the Quest for Gold (Viking/Penguin Random House, 2023) – picture book
Small Girl Zora and the Sack of Stories (Viking Press, accepted in 2022, forthcoming 2026) – picture book

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles:

“Haunted Houses and Ghostly Homes: Kacen Callender’s *Hurricane Child* as a Rewriting of Jamaica Kincaid’s *Annie John*.” *ariel: a review of international english literature* Vol. 54, No. 1 (January 2023): 73-101.
“Queering/Querying the Text in Patricia Powell’s *The Pagoda* and Sui Sin Far’s ‘Jamaica Works’.” Co-authored with Joo Ok Kim. *Across Global Souths: Asian Migrations through the U.S. South and the Circum-Caribbean* (special issue). Eds. Anatol & Kim. *American Studies* Vol. 61, No. 3 (Fall 2022): 121-146.

PUBLICATIONS, continued:

- “Visual Art and Fashion as Part of an English Department’s Afrofuturism Syllabus.” *Radical Teacher: Teaching Afrofuturism: Race, Erasure, and COVID*. Vol. 122 (May 10, 2022): 21-31.
- “Getting to the Root of U.S. Healthcare Injustices through Toni Morrison’s *Root Workers*.” *MELUS: Multi-Ethnic Literature of the United States* 46.4 (Winter 2021): 186-207.
- “Transmogrifying Home in Jamaica Kincaid’s *Annie John* and Kacen Callender’s *Hurricane Child*.” *Fiar: Forum for Inter-American Research. Imaginaries of Home in the Caribbean Diaspora and the Americas* 14.2 (November 2021): 80-89.
- “The Soucouyant, and Other Bloodsucking, Skin-Shedding Female Monsters.” *Listening to Our Monsters*, Special Issue of *Listening: Journal of Communication Ethics, Religion, & Culture* 52.3 (Fall 2017): 191-198.
- “*Brown Girl Dreaming*: A Ghost Story in the Postcolonial Gothic Tradition.” *Children’s Literature Association Quarterly, Special Issue on Genre and Black Literature* 41.4 (Winter 2016): 403-419.
- “Maternal Discourses in Nalo Hopkinson’s *Midnight Robber*,” *African American Review* 40.1 (Spring 2006): 111-24.
- “Derek Walcott’s Visions of Home in *Omeros*: ‘Coming Home to Our Place in Nature’,” *Journal of Caribbean Studies* 19.3 (Summer/Fall 2005): 233-56.
- “A Feminist Reading of Soucouyants in Nalo Hopkinson’s *Brown Girl in the Ring* and *Skin Folk*,” *Mosaic: a journal for the interdisciplinary study of literature*. 37.3 (September 2004): 33-50.
- “Speaking in (M)Other Tongues: The Role of Language in Jamaica Kincaid’s *The Autobiography of My Mother*.” *Callaloo* 25.3 (Summer 2002): 938-953.
- “Border Crossings in Audre Lorde’s *Zami*: Triangular Linkages of Identity and Desire,” *MaComère: Journal of the Association of Caribbean Women Writers and Scholars*. Vol.4 (2001): 130-41.
- “‘I Going Away, I Going Home’: Mothers and Motherlands in Paule Marshall’s *Brown Girl, Brownstones*.” *Mango Season: Caribbean Women’s Writing* 13:1 (Spring 2000): 43-53.
- “Transforming the Skin-Shedding Soucouyant: Using Folklore to Reclaim Female Agency in Caribbean Literature.” *Small Axe* 7 (March 2000): 44-59.

Book Chapters:

- “Black Female Vampires in Nineteenth-Century Writing and Folklore.” *The Vampire in Nineteenth-Century Literature: A Feast of Blood*. Eds. Brooke Cameron and Lara Karpenko (Routledge 2022): 11-26 [invited]
- “Ghosts of Japanese/American History in *Kira-Kira* (2005).” *Dust Off the Gold Medal: Rediscovering Children’s Literature at the Newbery Centennial*. Eds. Sara L. Schwebel and Joycelyn Van Tuyl (Routledge 2022): 219-234.
- “Life Writing for Black Children and Youth.” *A History of African American Autobiography*. Ed. Joycelyn K. Moody (Cambridge UP, 2021): 344-364.
- “Blurring the Borders of the Human: Hybridized Bodies in Literature and Folklore.” *Border Transgression and the Reconfiguration of Caribbean Spaces*. Eds. Fred Réno and Myriam Moïse (Palgrave Macmillan, 2020): 179-191.
- “Using Folklore to Challenge Contemporary Social Norms: Papa Bois, Mama D’Lo, and Environmentalism in Caribbean Literature.” *Practices of Resistance in the Caribbean: Narratives, Aesthetics and Politics*. Eds. Wiebke Beushausen et al. (Routledge, 2018): 25-39.
- “Anansi the Trickster: Contesting Eurocentric Knowledge Production in the Americas.” *The Routledge Companion to Inter-American Studies*. Ed. Wilfried Raussert (Routledge, 2017): 150-159.
- “From Granny’s Knee to Graduate Seminar: The Travels of the Soucouyant.” *Mobile and Entangled America[s]*. Eds. Maryemma Graham and Wilfried Raussert (Routledge, 2016): 91-101.
- “Narratives of Race and Gender: Black Vampires in U.S. Film.” *Dracula’s Daughters: The Female Vampire on Film*. Eds. Douglas Brode and Leah Deyneka (Scarecrow Press, 2014): 195-217.
- “The Sea-People of Nalo Hopkinson’s *The New Moon’s Arms*: Reconceptualizing Gilroy’s *The Black Atlantic* through Considerations of Myth and Motherhood” in *Diasporic Women’s Writing of the Black Atlantic: (En)Gendering Literature and Performance*. Eds. Emilia María Durán-Almarza and Esther Álvarez-López (Routledge 2013): 202-17.

PUBLICATIONS, continued:

- “Using Film to Enhance Cultural Understanding: Images of Jamaica in *How Stella Got Her Groove Back* and *The Harder They Come*.” *Teaching Anglophone Caribbean Literature*. Ed. Supriya Nair (Modern Language Association of America, 2012): 183-98.
- “Trailing in Jonathan Harker’s Shadow: Bella as Modern-Day Ethnographer in Meyer’s *Twilight* Novels.” Co-authored with Joo Ok Kim. *Bringing Light to Twilight: Perspectives on the Pop Culture Phenomenon*. Ed. Giselle Liza Anatol (Palgrave, 2011): 191-205.
- “Children’s and Young Adult Literatures.” *The Cambridge History of African American Literature*. Eds. Maryemma Graham and Jerry W. Ward, Jr. (Cambridge UP, 2011) 621-54.
- “The Replication of Victorian Racial Ideology in Harry Potter.” *Reading Harry Potter Again: Critical Essays*. Ed. Giselle Liza Anatol (Praeger/Greenwood, 2009): 109-26.
- “Langston Hughes and the Children’s Literary Tradition.” *Montage of a Dream: The Art and Life of Langston Hughes*. Eds John E. Tidwell & Cheryl Ragar (U. of Missouri P, 2007): 237-58.
- “Caribbean Migration, Ex-isles, and the New World Novel.” *The Cambridge Companion to the African American Novel*. Ed. Maryemma Graham (Cambridge UP, 2004): 70-83.
- “The Fallen Empire: Exploring Ethnic Otherness in the World of Harry Potter.” *Reading Harry Potter: Critical Essays*. Ed. Giselle Liza Anatol. (Praeger/Greenwood, 2003): 163-78.
- “‘Passing/Out’ in the Classroom: Eradicating Binaries of Identity.” *Women Faculty of Color in the White College Classroom*. Ed. Lucila Vargas (Peter Lang, 2002): 55-72.

Reference Articles:

- Entries on “Children’s Literature,” “Plantation Literature,” and “The Slave Narrative.” *The Routledge Handbook to the Culture and Media of the Americas*. Eds. Giselle Anatol et al. (Routledge, 2020).
- Entries on Nalo Hopkinson, Audre Lorde, Paule Marshall, and “*Zami*”. *The Encyclopedia of the African Diaspora: Origins, Experiences, and Culture*. Ed. Carole Boyce Davies. 3 vol. (ABC-CLIO, 2008)
- Entries on Maryse Condé, Edwidge Danticat, Audre Lorde, Myriam Warner-Vieyra. *Who’s Who in Contemporary Women’s Writing*. Ed. Jane Eldridge Miller (Routledge, 2001)

Reviews, Guest Blogs, Essays, etc.:

- “Coming Out of the Kumbla, Out of the Closet,” 30th anniversary edition of *Out of the Kumbla: Caribbean Women & Literature*. Eds Carole Boyce Davies and Elaine Savory Fido [invited] – in press
- “Remembering Paule Marshall.” *Project on the History of Black Writing* (posted Sept. 2019).
<http://www.projecthbw.ku.edu/uncategorized/remembering-paule-marshall/?fbclid=IwAR0HDO-DEH158hvBdWtcxslQW4oaC40h7khGnjKXxac45U3G1WYS1uXUE-I>
- “Remembering Derek Walcott.” *Project on the History of Black Writing* (posted May 2017).
<http://www.projecthbw.ku.edu/hbw/guest-blog-remembering-derek-walcott/>
- Review of Marc Aronson’s *Beyond the Pale: New Essays for a New Era*. *The Lion and the Unicorn* 29.1 (January 2005): 124-8.
- “A Sister’s Tears.” Review of Jamaica Kincaid’s *My Brother*. *The Philadelphia Inquirer* (11/23/97): Q.1.1
- Review of Valerie Melissa Babb’s *Ernest Gaines*. *MELUS* 20.1 (Spring 1995).

INVITED TALKS:

International:

- Climate Change as System Change: Inter-American Perspectives*, Univ. of Graz, Austria (March 2-5, 2023)
Paper Title: “‘Broad Dutty Water’ as a Reflection of the Social Inequities of Climate Change”
- (Re-)Thinking Home: 21st-Century Caribbean Diaspora Cultures & Geopolitical Imaginaries in North America Conference* [virtual], Bielefeld University, Germany (May 26, 2021)—keynote lecture
Lecture Title: “Haunted Houses and Ghostly Homes: Kheryn Callender’s *Hurricane Child*”
- Reflecting the Americas as Space of Entanglements*, Bielefeld University, Bielefeld, Germany (October 26-29, 2016)—panelist
Paper Title: “Beyond the Border: Reading Jesmyn Ward’s *Salvage the Bones* as a Literature of Entanglements”

INVITED TALKS, continued:

Society of Caribbean Research (SoCaRe) Junior Research Conference: Cultures of Resistance? Theories and Practices of Transgression in the Caribbean and its Diasporas. Bielefeld Univ., Germany (January 22-24, 2015)—keynote lecture

Lecture Title: “Blood is Money, Blood is Race, Blood is Sex: Using the Vampire to Challenge Sexual Norms in Caribbean Literature”

National:

NeMLA 2024 (Northeast Modern Language Association) Annual Conference. Boston, MA (March 7-10, 2024)— Keynote/Area Event for Global Anglophone, American/Diaspora, and Diversity Caucuses

Lecture Title: “Medical ‘Monstrosities’: Black Female Vampires in Recent African Diaspora Fiction”

John Jay College of Criminal Justice Speaker Series (CUNY), New York NY (Feb. 21, 2024)

Presentation Title: “Crafting Dreams: Writing Children’s Books & Navigating the Publishing Journey”

Robert W. Hamblin Lecture, SE Missouri State, Cape Girardeau, MO (April 4, 2019)

Lecture Title: “Fighting Against One’s Skin: The Skin-Shedding, Bloodsucking Soucouyant in Caribbean Literature”

USF Humanities Lecture Series, U. of Southern Florida, Tampa Bay, FL (Jan. 24, 2019)

Lecture Title: “The Color of Monstrosity: The Skin-Shedding, Bloodsucking Soucouyant of Caribbean Folklore and Fiction”

Wicked Souls and Bodies: Evil Spirits, Sexuality, Gender, and Violence in the Lore of the African Diaspora.

University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY (February 3, 2016)—panelist

Paper Title: “Monstrous Mouths: The Skin-Shedding, Bloodsucking Soucouyant and Implications for Black Women’s Sexuality”

University of Missouri English Dept. Speakers Series, Columbia, MO (Oct. 18, 2013)

Lecture Title: “Black Female Vampires in African Diaspora Folklore and Literature”

Holmes Community College (MS). [Virtual] Speaker Series (October 31, 2012)

Lecture Title: “More Than Just a Bite on the Neck: Interpreting *Twilight*”

University of Florida Health Sciences Center Speakers Series (September 13, 2012)

Lecture Title: “Representations of Race and Ethnicity in J.K. Rowling’s Harry Potter Series”

Villanova College, Department of English & Africana Studies Program (Sept 19, 2007)

Lecture Title: “The Things That Fly in the Night: Vampires in Caribbean Literature”

University of Pennsylvania Americanists Conference, Philadelphia, PA (Oct 21, 2005)—panelist

Presentation: “The Horror of Racism in Eddie Murphy’s *Vampire in Brooklyn*”

Language Matters II: Reading & Teaching Toni Morrison, NEH Summer Seminar, Northern Kentucky U., Highland Heights, KY (July 9-15, 2005)

Presentation: “Reading and Teaching *The Bluest Eye*”

Presentation: “Reading and Teaching Morrison’s Children’s Literature”

Nimbus 2003: Harry Potter International Symposium, Orlando, FL (July 17-20, 2003)—panelist

Panel Title: Dodging the Bludgers: Publishing on Potter

Beware the Jabberwock: Confronting Monsters in Children’s Literature, Newman University, Wichita, KS (February 14-16, 2003)—panelist

Paper Title: “Facing Trauma in J.K. Rowling’s Harry Potter Books”

The Endlessly Beckoning Horizon: Afro-American Literature at the End of the 20th Century Conference, Univ. of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA (September 30-October 2, 1999)—panelist

Paper Title: “‘Building Nests in a Windy Place’: Notions of Home in Lorene Cary’s *Pride*”

Regional/Local:

KU Medical Center Clinical Culture and Diversity Series, Kansas City, KS (Feb. 19, 2021)

Lecture Title: “Legacies of ‘The Venus Hottentot’: Black Women’s Bodies in Culture & Medicine”

Talk & Tour Series: *Hew Locke: Here’s the Thing*, Kemper Museum of Contemporary Art, Kansas City, MO

Lecture Title: “Boats, Ships, and Marine Journeys in Caribbean Literature” (Jan. 8, 2020)

Nerd Nite 68, Lawrence, KS (Feb. 7, 2018)

Lecture Title: “‘The Wonderful[?] World of Disney’: Film Adaptations of Popular Children’s Narratives”

INVITED TALKS, continued:

Campus:

2017 Waggoner Colloquium, KU Center for Latin American & Caribbean Studies (Nov. 15, 2017)—panelist

Paper Title: “Folklore and Environmentalism in Caribbean Children's Literature”

KU Common Book Event: Understanding Claudia Rankine’s *Citizen*, KU Achievement & Assessment Institute (Nov. 16, 2017)—panelist

Paper Title: “Embodying Racism: Pronouns, Metaphors, and the Visual Text of *Citizen*”

Liberating Our Minds, Unleashing Our Power: 39th Annual Big XII Conference on Black Student Government. (Feb. 25-27, 2016)

Paper: “Lesbians Are Psycho: Annalise Keating’s Character Development in *How to Get Away with Murder*”

KU Center of Latin American Studies, *Merienda* Series (September 20, 2012)

Lecture Title: “Caribbean Vampires in the Diaspora: A Critique of Canadian National Identity”

Jesse B. Semple Brownbag Series, KU Langston Hughes Center, Lawrence, KS (April 13, 2009)

Lecture Title: “The Replication of Victorian Racial Ideology in *Harry Potter*”

Hall Center for the Humanities British Seminar, KU, Lawrence, KS (November 12, 2007)

Lecture Title: “From Dracula to Blacula: Transatlantic Considerations of the Vampire”

Latin American Studies *Merienda* Series, KU, Lawrence, KS (April 14, 2005)

Lecture Title: “Images of Female Vampirism in the Literature of the African Americas”

15th Annual James E. Seaver Lecture on Continuing Issues in Western Civilization, KU, Lawrence, KS (February 19, 2002)

Lecture Title: “A Modern Homer Writes Home: Derek Walcott’s Vision of Returns in *Omeros*”

Hall Center Faculty Seminar: *Migration and Displacement.* (Fall 1999)

Paper Title: “‘I Going Away, I Going Home’: Mothers and Motherlands in Paule Marshall’s *Brown Girl, Brownstones*” (September 16, 1999)

Latin American Studies *Merienda* Series, KU, Lawrence, KS (April 8, 1999)

Lecture Title: “From Eating Apples to Shedding Skin: The Mexican Eve, Soucouyants, and Female Sexuality in Caribbean Women’s Literature”

African & African American Studies Faculty Seminar, KU, Lawrence, KS (February 24, 1999)

Paper Title: “Incorporations of Folklore into Caribbean Women’s Literature”

CONFERENCES / MAJOR PRESENTATIONS:

Caribbean Feminisms: Genealogies and Geographies of Resistance: Biannual Conference of the Assoc. of

Caribbean Women Writers & Scholars (ACWWS), U. of Costa Rica, San José & Limón (June 22-24, 2023)

Paper Title: “Resisting the Regional Inequities of Climate Change – Nalo Hopkinson’s Speculative Fiction”

KU in Wichita Humanities Speakers Series, Hall Center for the Humanities/Wichita Art Museum (Apr 12, 2023)

Paper Title: “Getting to the Root of U.S. Healthcare Injustices through Toni Morrison’s *Root Workers*”

Once & Future Fantasies Conference, University of Glasgow, Scotland (July 13-17, 2022)

Paper Title: “*The Good Luck Girls:* Challenging the Paradigms of Fantasy and History”

Unsettling Transpacific Ecologies: Assoc. for Asian American Studies Conf. [virtual] (April 8-9, 2021)

Paper Title: “Haunting Histories: Japanese American Ecologies in Cynthia Kadohata’s *Kira-Kira*”

Cherishing the Past, Envisioning the Future: Entangled Practices of Heritage and Utopia in the Americas.

University of Bielefeld, Bielefeld, Germany (December 14-15, 2018)

Paper Title: “Zootopia’s Utopia: Distorted Visions of Racial Harmony”

Reinventing the Social: Movements and Narratives of Resistance, Dissension, and Reconciliation in the Americas. Univ. of Coimbra, Coimbra, Portugal (March 24, 2018)

Paper Title: “Nicki Minaj, Cardi B, and the Modern-Day Venus Hottentot: Navigating Empowerment and Objectification”

MAJOR PRESENTATIONS, continued:

42nd Annual Caribbean Studies Association Conference. Nassau, Bahamas (June 5-9, 2017)

Paper Title: "Blurring the Borders between Human and Non-Human in Folklore and Literature"

41st Annual Caribbean Studies Association Conference. Port-Au-Prince, Haiti (June 5-11, 2016)

Paper Title: "Papa Bois and Mama D'Lo in Contemporary Children's Books."

Caribbean Cinema NOW! Conference/10th Trinidad & Tobago Film Festival, Port of Spain, Trinidad (September 25, 2015)

Paper Title: "Using Folklore to Decolonize Knowledge: Recent Film Adaptations of Caribbean Legends"

Children's Literature Association [ChLA] Annual International Conference: *The High Stakes and Dark Sides of Children's Literature*, Richmond, VA (June 18-20, 2015)

Paper Title: "'Give Me Liberty!' M.T. Anderson's *The Astonishing Life of Octavian Nothing* as Part of the Slave Narrative Tradition"

Caribbean Studies Assoc. [CSA] Annual International Conference, New Orleans, LA (May 25-29, 2015)

Paper title: "Applications of the Anansi Figure in Contemporary Caribbean Literature"

Mid-America Alliance for African Studies Conference, KU (October 3-4, 2014)

Paper Title: "Anansi Meets Peter Parker: Uses of the Spider/Man in African Diaspora Literature"

ChLA Annual International Conference: *Diverging Diversities*, Columbia, SC (June 18-21, 2014)

Paper Title: "African-American Land Ownership and Dispossession in *Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry* and *33 Snowfish*"

Caribbean Studies Association Annual International Conference, Mérida, Mexico (May 26-30, 2014)

Paper Title: "Linguistic, Cultural & Racial Entanglements: Audre Lorde in Mexico"

Caribbean Studies Association Annual International Conference, St. George's, Grenada (June 3-7, 2013)

Paper Title: "Visual Records of Caribbean Culture: Richardo Keens-Douglas' Picture Books"

Inaugural Conference of the *Bundesministerium für Bildung und Forschung* Project: "The Americas as Space of Entanglement(s): (Trans)Cultural Mobility in the Americas. ZiF (Center for Interdisciplinary Research), Bielefeld University, Bielefeld, Germany (May 6-8, 2013)

Paper Title: "From Granny's Knee to Graduate Seminar: The Travels of the Soucouyant"

13th International Conference of the Association of Caribbean Women Writers & Scholars (ACWWS), Paramaribo, Suriname (May 2012)

Paper Title: "Vampiric Memory in David Chariandy's *Soucouyant*"

Toni Morrison and Circuits of the Imagination: 6th Biennial Conference of the Toni Morrison Society, Université Paris 8 [Vincennes-St. Denis], Paris, France (November 4-7, 2010)

Panel Chair: *Virtually Brilliant: Interpreting Morrison's Works in the Virtual World of Second Life*

Paper Title: "The Perils of the High-Tech Classroom: Incorporating *Second Life* Technology into a Toni Morrison Survey Course"

Literary London 2010: *Representations of London in Literature*, Institute of English Studies, U. of London, England (July 7-9, 2010)—Panel Chair: *Harry Potter's London*

Paper Title: "Race and Ambiguous Place in Rowling's *Harry Potter* Novels"

12th International Conference of the ACWWS: *Caribbean Dislocations/Caribbean Diasporas*, Louisiana State Univ, Baton Rouge, LA (April 20-24, 2010)

Paper Title: "The Mermaid Figure in Nalo Hopkinson's *The New Moon's Arms*"

Sidney Poitier International Conference & Film Festival, College of the Bahamas, Nassau, Bahamas (Feb 23-27, 2010)

Paper Title: "The De-Sexualization of the Black Male in *The Jackal*"

11th International Conference of the ACWWS: *Traditions and Legacies, Revisions and Interventions*, St. George's, Grenada (May 19 - 23, 2008)

Paper Title: "Re/Writing *The Tempest* in Nunez's *Prospero's Daughter*"

MAJOR PRESENTATIONS, continued:

Nuestra América in the US? Latino/a Studies Conference, KU, Lawrence, KS (Feb 8-9, 2008)

Paper Title: "The Drowning *Dominicana*: Racial and Ethnic Identification in Angie Cruz's *Soledad*"
2007 Literature/Film Association Conference: *Adaptation, from Stage and Page to Screen*, KU,

Lawrence, KS (October 11-14, 2007)

Paper Title: "Black Vampires on Film"

CSA Annual Conference: *Alternative Interpretations of the Circum-Caribbean*, Salvador da Bahia, Brazil
(May 28 – June 1, 2007)

Paper Title: "Water Imagery in Angie Cruz's *Soledad*"

10th Anniversary ACWWS Conference: *The Caribbean Woman Writer as Scholar – Imagining / Theorizing / Creating*, North Miami, FL (May 30-June 3, 2006)

Paper Title: "Written on the Body: Toni Morrison's *Beloved* and Edwidge Danticat's *The Dew Breaker*"

9th International ACWWS Conference, Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic (April 26-30, 2004)

Paper Title: "Maternal Discourses in Nalo Hopkinson's *Midnight Robber*"

Mid-America American Studies Association Conference, KU, Lawrence, KS (April 17-19, 2004)

Paper Title: "Other-Mothering in Nalo Hopkinson's *Midnight Robber*"

28th CSA Conference: *The Greater Caribbean: Roots and Routes*, Belize City, Belize (May 26-31, 2003)

Paper Title: "Soucouyants & Subversions of Patriarchal Conventions in Nalo Hopkinson's *Skin Folk*"

20th-Century Literature Conference, Univ. of Louisville, Louisville, KY (February 27-March 1, 2003)

Title: "'She Coulda Go Wherever She Want'? Vampire Imagery in Hopkinson's *Brown Girl in the Ring*"

ACWWS Conference: *Unveiling the Caribbean – From Diversity to Coherence*, Trois-Ilets, Martinique
(April 2-6, 2002)

Paper Title: "Passing and Performances of Identity: Teaching Shani Mootoo's 'Out on Main Street'"

49th Conference on Composition & Literature: *Teaching Traditions in a Time of Transition*, KU (Oct. 8, 2001)

Paper Title: "Teaching Multiethnic Children's Literature"

CSA Annual Conference: *The Emerging Caribbean*, St. Maarten, Dutch Antilles (May 27-June 2, 2001)

Paper Title: "Rethinking 'Skin White As Snow': Racial Ideology in African-Caribbean Fairy Tales"

Popular Culture Association Annual Conference, Philadelphia, PA (April 11-14, 2001)

Paper Title: "Caribbean Fairy Tales: Re-visioning the Classics"

CSA Annual Conference: *The Caribbean on the Move: Entering the 21st Century*, Castries, St. Lucia
(May 29-June 3, 2000)

Paper Title: "Coming Home to Castries: Derek Walcott's Vision of Returns in *Omeros*"

ACWWS Conference: *Binding Ties/Enlaces/Liaisons: Transnationalism – The Caribbean and Its Diaspora*,
Mayagüez, Puerto Rico (April 2-7, 2000)

Paper Title: "Border Crossings in Audre Lorde's *Zami*: Triangular Linkages of Identity and Desire"

CSA Conference: *New Frontiers in the New Millennium: The Greater Caribbean in the Global Perspective*,
Panamá City, Panamá (May 24-30, 1999)

Paper Title: "'Exposed in the Open Field to Shame': Representations of Slavery in Texts by Caribbean
Women Writers"

MELUS Conference: *Migrating Bodies: Movements in Ethnic, Racial, and Gender Discourses*, Vanderbilt
University, Nashville, TN (March 18-21, 1999)

Paper Title: "'A Drive From the Mother's Blood': Return Migrations in Audre Lorde's *Zami*"

6th International ACWWS Conference, Grand Anse, Grenada, W.I. (May 18-22, 1998)

Paper Title: "Writing/Righting Memory in Jamaica Kincaid's *My Brother*"

16th Annual West Indian Literature Conference, U. of Miami, Coral Gables, FL (April 1-4, 1997)

Paper Title: "Mother-Tongues: Language in Jamaica Kincaid's *The Autobiography of My Mother*"

5th International ACWWS Conference: *Winds of Change: The Transforming Voices of Women*, Florida
International University, North Miami, FL (April 24-27, 1996)

Paper Title: "From Eating Apples to Shedding Skin: The Mexican Eve, Soucouyants, and Female
Sexuality in Caribbean Women's Literature"

"Seeking Ground: Figuring a Black Cultural Imaginary," U. of Pennsylvania (November 11-12, 1993)

Paper Title: "B/Lack Women: Representations of African-American Women in Popular Romance Novels"

WORKSHOPS:

Kennedy Early Childhood Center, Lawrence, KS (Aug. 15, 2023)

Presentation Title: "Diversity in Disney Movies and Contemporary Picture Books"

Johnson County Public Library *2019 Writers Conference*, Central Resource Library, Overland Park, KS (Nov. 16, 2019)

Lecture Title: "Writing for Young People: Fractured Fairy Tales"

Lecture Title: "Writing for Young People: Cultural Appropriation & Stereotypes"

Society for Children's Book Writers & Illustrators (SCBWI)-KS/MO Chapter *Middle of the Map Annual Conference*, Overland Park, KS (Nov. 2, 2019)

Lecture Title: "Fractured Fairy Tales"

Lecture Title: "Writing a Culture That's Not Your Own"

Kansas African Studies Center 2006 Teacher Summer Institute: *Africa in the Diaspora: A Paradigm of Black Connectedness*, University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS (June 20, 2006)

Paper Title: "African-American and Caribbean Children's Literature"

Language Matters II: *Reading and Teaching Toni Morrison*, Teachers' In-Service Workshop, KU Continuing Education, Lawrence, KS (April 2, 2001)

Lecture Title: "Reading and Teaching *Song of Solomon*"

MINOR PRESENTATIONS:

"How to Unpack Drac: Scholarly Perspectives." Lawrence Public Library's *Booktoberfest* (Nov 8, 2023)—panelist

"Spooky Women of Folklore [the Soucouyant]." Hall Center for the Humanities: *Haunting Humanities* (Oct. 25, 2023)—presenter

"50 Years of *Blacula*." Lawrence Public Library's *Booktoberfest* (Oct 7, 2023)—Q&A Respondent/ Discussion Leader following film screening at 10th & Mass Studios/Lawrence Arts Center

"The Value of the Humanities." University of Missouri Humanities Center Launch Event, Columbia, MO (Sep. 28, 2023)—panelist

"A Conversation with Jacqueline Woodson." Lawrence Public Library, Beach Author Series (April 23, 2023)

"A Conversation with Jacqueline Holland." Rainy Day Books, Kansas City, KS (March 13, 2023)

" " Raven Bookstore, Lawrence, KS (March 14, 2023)

"The 2022 Sturgeon Award Winner: Nalo Hopkinson's 'Broad Dutty Water'." KU English Department Works-In-Progress Salon: *Afrofuturism* (March 9, 2023)

Who Gets to Parent? Documentary film premiere and panel discussion, sponsored by KU's Sexuality & Gender Diversity Center (Nov. 10, 2022)—panelist

Feminist Fright Fest: Candyman. Film screening and panel discussion, sponsored by KU's Emily Taylor Center (Oct. 6, 2022)—panelist

"A Conversation with Angeline Boulley" (April 8, 2022). *Paper Plains Literary Festival*. Liberty Hall, Lawrence, KS

Firekeeper's Daughter Roundtable and Book Discussion [virtual], sponsored by the Gunn Center for the Study of SF and the Paper Plains Literary Festival (April 2, 2022)—organizer and panelist

FIYAHCON: Annual Conference of *FIYAH Literary Magazine*, invited panelist for "Sink Your Teeth Into It: Vampire Mythology from Around the World" [virtual] (September 17, 2021)

"African American Read-In Kickoff," Lawrence Public Library, KS (Feb. 2, 2020)—panelist

"*Fatal Assistance* in Haiti, 20 Years Post-Earthquake," KU's Institute for Haitian Studies (Jan. 28, 2020) Panelist for Q&A dialogue after screening Raoul Peck's film

Goth Girls: Edgar Allan Poe and the Return of the Funereal Female. Lawrence Arts Center, Main Stage Theater, Lawrence, KS (October 28, 2015)—panelist

Hall Center for the Humanities Gender Seminar, University of Kansas (October 1, 2015)

Lecture: "Gender-Blending the Trickster: Anansi Folklore in Literature of the African Diaspora"

MINOR PRESENTATIONS, continued:

Caribbean Studies Association International Conference, New Orleans, LA (May 25-29, 2015)—panelist
Panel: *Barbara Christian: Legacy, Lessons, and Twenty-First-Century Black Feminisms*
Hall Center for the Humanities Book Celebration, Lawrence, KS (March 2015)—panelist
Hall Center for the Humanities Faculty Colloquium: *Decolonizing Knowledge* (Fall 2014)
Paper Title: “Anansi Folklore in Children’s Literature of the African Diaspora”
KU Center for Undergraduate Research Lecture, Hashinger Black Box Theatre (April 17, 2014):
“Folklore and Free Electrons,” with Tim Jackson of the Chemistry Dept.
Pembroke Hill School, Early Childhood Education, Kansas City, MO (April 10, 2013)
Presentation Title: “Race, Ethnicity and Disney Films”
Yale University, Ezra Stiles Residential College Master’s Tea (October 10, 2011)
Presentation Title: “Team Edward VS Team Harry: Analyzing Pop Culture”
Up to Date, Hosted by Steve Kraske, KCUR (NPR affiliate), Kansas City, MO (June 8, 2011)
radio interview on the release of *Bringing Light to Twilight* and recent trends in children’s literature
NEH-sponsored *Language Matters IV Workshop: Teaching Toni Morrison in Translation* (Paris, 2010)
Hall Center for the Humanities Book Celebration, Lawrence, KS (March 4, 2004)—panelist
Homophobia in the Black Community, Spelman Coll., Atlanta, GA (January 27, 2003)—panelist
KU for Lawrence: “Masterpieces of World Literature: Reading Nobel Prize Winners,” KU Continuing
Education, Lawrence, KS (February 26, 2001)
Instructor/Discussion Leader for Toni Morrison’s *The Bluest Eye*
African Literature Association Conference, Lawrence, KS (April 12-16, 2000)
Panelist for after-performance dialogue on *Raisin in the Sun*
“Voices from the Diaspora” panel moderator
Gender and Nationalism: Hall Center Faculty Seminar Preview Panel (March 9, 2000)

COURSES TAUGHT:

KU, Department of English:

Freshman Honors Seminar: Caribbean Literature – “Mimicry or Culture?” (Fall 2000, F 1999, F 1998)
University Honors Seminar: Marginalized Bodies, Illness, & “Medicine” in Literature (Spring 2021)
Introduction to Fiction: Encountering the American City (Spring 2001, Spr 1999)
Introduction to Caribbean Literature (F2019, Spr2011, Spr2009, F2006, F2004, Spr2004, Spr2002, F2001)
Introduction to African American Literature (Spr 2019, F 2015, Spr 2013, Spr 2008, Spr 2006)
Major Authors: Toni Morrison (Spr 2020, F 2011, Spr 2010, Spr 2006, F 2003, F 2000, F 1998)
Contemporary Authors: Toni Morrison [Distance Learning course – KU Continuing Edu.] (2005-2011)
Speculative Fiction of the African Diaspora (F 2024 [grad], F 2020, F 2018 [grad], F 2014, Spr 2014)
Literature for Children [survey] (Spr 2016, F 2013, F 10, F 09, F 08, Spr 02, Spr 2000, F 1999)
Literature for Children [banned books] (F 2006, Spr 2005, F 2003)
Literature for Children [Disney narratives] (F 2020, Sp2020, F2017, F2012, Sp2012, F2010)
Literature for Children – Resistance & Rebellion [grad] (Spr 2017, Spr 2012)
Multicultural Children’s Literature (Spr 2018)
Writing for Children & Young Adults (F 2019, F 2021)
Introduction to English Graduate Studies @ KU: Methods & Professionalization [grad] (2023-2024)
Topics in American Literature: Borderlands/Border Crossings [grad] (Sp2008, F05, Sp05, F01, Sp00, Sp99)
Marginalized Bodies in Literature, Medicine, and the Law [Eng seniors + Law/grad] (Spring 2022)
Caribbean Women Writers (Spr 2009 [undergrad Honors proseminar]; F 2007 [grad])
Comparative Black Literature: Representations of Motherhood [grad] (Spr 2001)
20th-Century American Women’s Autobiography [grad] (F 2004, Spr 2004)
Vampires in Literature of the African Diaspora [grad] (Spr 2011, F 2007)
African & African-Diasporic Lit.: The Black Nobel Laureates [grad] (Sp2021, F 2005); [undergrad] (F 2011)
African & African-Diasporic Literature: Folklore in African Diaspora Literature [grad] (Spr 2015)
African & African-Diasporic Literature: African-American Women’s Literature [grad] (Sum 2017)

COURSES, continued:

Bielefeld University (Germany), Department of InterAmerican Studies:
Caribbean Women Writers: Resistance and Revolt [grad] (22 Jan – 6 Feb, 2015)

Spelman College, Department of English:

Introduction to Literature (Spring 2003, Fall 2002)

Introduction to Caribbean Literature (Spr 2003)

20th-Century American Women's Autobiography (Spr 2003)

Representations of Motherhood in Black Women's Writing (F 2002)

Literature for Children (F 2002)

University of Pennsylvania, Department of English:

Caribbean Women Writers, Visiting Lecturer, College of Arts and Sciences (Fall 1997)

Encountering the City, English Instructor, Pre-Freshman Program (Summer 1996)

Literature of Social Vision and Social Action, Grad. Fellow, U. of Penn – W. Philadelphia H.S.(F 1995)

Twentieth-Century Women's Literature: First-Generation Americans, Instructor (Spring 1995)

Literature from the English-Speaking Caribbean: The Culture of Childhood, Instructor (F 1994)

Contemporary American Literature by Women of Color, Teaching Assistant (Spr 1994)

The Contemporary American Novel, Instructor (F 1993)

Guest Lectures:

John Jay ENGL: First-Year Seminar on censorship (re: banned/challenged children's literature, challenges to Toni Morrison's *Beloved*, and *Small-Girl Toni*) – 2 sections, 30 min. ea. (2/21/2024)

John Jay ENGL American Literature class (re: *Song of Solomon* and *Small-Girl Toni*) – 30 min. (2/21/24)

John Jay ENGL Creative Writing class (re: children's literature and *Small-Girl Toni*) – 30 min. (2/21/24)

KU Biology/BIO 446: *Biology of Sleep* (Nov 13, 2023) – “Sleep Paralysis in Literature: Intersections with Vampire Traditions”

Harbin Engineering University [China], English Dept. (October 13, 2022) –

“Science Fiction by African American Women Writers” [virtual]

Art Institute of Chicago, English Dept.: *Monsters and Colonialism* (Spring 2022) –

“The Soucouyant, and other Black Female Vampires” (March)

KU Dept. of Slavic Lang. & Lit./SLAV 230: *Vampires in Literature, Film, and Television* (Spring 2022)

“Vampires from Africa and the Diaspora: Folklore & Literary Traditions” (May)

Valparaiso University, English Dept. (Spring 2021) –

“What It Means To Write for Children: Little Red Riding Hood Through the Ages” [virtual]

KU Women, Gender & Sexuality Studies Dept. (Spring 2018) – “Jamaica Kincaid's *A Small Place*”

Simmons College, Graduate Program in Children's Literature & Writing (Summer 2015) –

“M.T. Anderson's *The Astonishing Life of Octavian Nothing* and the Slave Narrative Tradition”

KU Theatre/THR 213: *Movement* (Oct 21, 2014) – “Traditional Fairy Tales and Contemporary Adaptations”

KU Honors Program Faculty Engagement (Oct 8, 2014) – Discussion Leader: “Disney's *The Little Mermaid*”

KU Latin American & Caribbean Studies/LAS 300 (Sept 11, 2014) – “The Zombie in Zora Neale Hurston's *Tell My Horse* and William Seabrook's *The Magic Island*”

CHAIRPERSON of EXAMINATION and THESIS/DISSERTATION COMMITTEES:

Undergraduate Studies:

Violet McClendon, honors thesis, Fall 2020

Taylor Dinkel, honors thesis, Spring 2020

Rachel Atakpa, honors thesis, Spring 2019

Alex Cateforis, honors thesis, Fall 2018-Spring 2019

Anaiya Underwood, honors thesis, Spring 2019

Centennial Clogston, honors thesis, Spring 2017

Megan Fox, honors thesis, Spring 2017

Evangelina Cantu, honors thesis, Spring 2015

Joel Bonner, Undergraduate Research Award project, Spring 2014

CHAIRPERSON of STUDENT COMMITTEES, continued:

Kayla Overbey, honors thesis, Fall 2013-Spring 2014
Anna Wenner, Undergraduate Research Award project, Fall 2013-Spring 2014
Mariah Riling, honors thesis, Spring 2013
Sarah McCabe, honors thesis, Fall 2012-Spring 2013
Charlotte Davis, honors thesis, Fall 2012-Spring 2013
Young Han Lester, honors thesis, Spring 2012
Lindsey Bugbee, honors thesis, Spring 2011
Chelsea Brown, honors thesis, Spring 2010
Alyssa Esperance, honors thesis, Spring 2010
Danielle Lavelly, honors thesis, Spring 2009
Chelsea Magruder, honors thesis, Spring 2009
Leslie Rhoton, honors thesis, Spring 2009
Alice Walkiewicz, honors thesis, Spring 2006
Taylor Harrell, Humanities thesis, Fall 2005
Hannah Appelbeck, honors thesis, Spring 2005
Kyle Koch, honors thesis, Spring 2005
Mary Westfall, honors thesis, Spring 2005
Eve Lane, McNair Program Summer Research Project, Summer 2001
Marina Scheer, honors thesis, Spring 2001
Jaime Whitt, honors thesis, Spring 2001
Roshan James Abraham, honors thesis, Fall 2000

Graduate Studies:

Ogo Ngwudike, dissertation
Pere DeRoy (WGSS), dissertation [co-chair w/ Alesha Doan]
Abisola Akinsiku, PhD comprehensive exam – scheduled Fall 2024
Anthony Boynton II, dissertation – defended Summer 2024
Sandra Jacobo, dissertation – defended Summer 2024
Delana (DJ) Price, PhD comprehensive exam – passed Spring 2024
Megan Dennis, dissertation – defended Summer 2023
Whit Knapp, PhD comprehensive exam – passed Spring 2023
Thyme Thornton, MA (4+1) thesis – defended Spring 2023
Chelsea Lantz-Cashman, MA exam – passed Summer 2022
Ashley Simmons, PhD comprehensive exam – passed Spring 2022
Jason Baltazar, PhD comprehensive exam – passed Fall 2020
Meeyoung Kang, PhD comprehensive exam – passed Spring 2016
Sarah Ngoh, PhD comprehensive exam [co-chair w/ Byron Santangelo] – passed Fall 2013
Alayna Ziegler, MA exam – passed Spring 2013
Sarah Fettke, MA thesis – defended Spring 2012
Kristen Lillvis, dissertation – defended Spring 2011
DaMaris Hill, PhD comprehensive exam [co-chair w/ Maryemma Graham] – passed Spring 2011
Ali Brox, PhD comprehensive exam [co-chair w/ Byron Santangelo] – passed Summer 2010
Beth Lagaron, PhD dissertation – defended Spring 2009
Susan Thomas, PhD comprehensive exam – passed Fall 2008
Emily Robbins, MA thesis – defended Fall 2007
Teresa Fernandez Arab, PhD dissertation – defended Summer 2007
Joeseph Sommers, PhD dissertation – defended Spring 2007
Begoña Vilouta Vasquez, MA thesis – defended Summer 2006
Leslee Friedman, MA thesis – defended Spring 2006
Jamie Smartt, MA exam – passed Spring 2002
Geneva Diamond, MA exam – passed Spring 2000

ACADEMIC SERVICE:

Department:

Teaching Mentor for Asst. Prof. Silvia Park (2023-2024)
Search Committee Chair, for TT Assistant Professor, KU (Fall 2023)
Search Committee Chair, for TT Assistant Professor of Creative Writing / Speculative Fiction (2022-2023)
Graduate Admissions Committee (Spr 2012, Spr 2011, Spr 2010, Spr 2002), Chair (Spr 2013-Spr 2019)
Department Awards Committee (Spring 2004, Co-Chair: 2005-2007, Chair: 2007-2012)
Graduate Committee, KU (2021-22, 2019-20, 2010-11, 2001-2002), Chair (F 2012-Spr 2019)
Search Committee for Full-Time Lecturer, KU (Spring 2009)
Chair's Advisory Committee, KU (2020-2022, ex-officio 2012-2019, 2007-2009)
Search Committee for Assistant Professor of Language and Composition (2007-2008)
Dept Diversity, Inclusion, Recruitment & Retention Committee (2019-2021, 2009-2010), co-chair (2020-21)
Stiefel Teaching Professorship Selection Committee, KU (Spring 2006)
Merit Review Committee, KU (2004-2007)
Conger-Gabel Teaching Professor selection committee, KU (Spring 2004)
Freshman-Sophomore English GTAL Committee, KU (2003-2004)
Lecturers & Readers Committee (1999-2000, 2001-2002)
Ad Hoc Committee on African-American Literature & Culture, KU (1999-present)
Ad Hoc Committee on Internationalizing the Departmental Curriculum, KU (1999)

University:

Search Committee Chair, Hall Center for the Humanities Postdoctoral Fellow (2023-2024)
Vice Chancellor for Research Search Committee (Fall 2023)
Office of Research Review Committee, IPSR/Dir. Donna Ginther (Fall 2023)
Coordinator, Sturgeon Symposium: *Celebrating Speculative Communities* (Sept. 29-30, 2022)
Center for Latin American & Caribbean Studies Executive Committee (2022-2024)
Vice President, Sexual & Gender Diversity Faculty & Staff Council (2019-2021)
Center for Latin American & Caribbean Studies Undergraduate Committee (2020-2021)
Chancellor's Teaching Award Committee (Spring 2019)
Co-Coordinator, "The Unexpected Caribbean" Symposium (Oct. 17-20, 2018)
Graduate Students of Color Network Faculty Advisory Board (2018-2020)
Institute of Haitian Studies Advisory Board (2017-2020)
KU Common Book Committee (December 2017, December 2015)
Diversity & Equity Faculty Advisory Council, Provost's Office (2015-2017)
Black Leadership Symposium for KS high school students, Speaker (November 14, 2017)
College Academic Council (2014-2017)
Dean's Special Working Group on Graduate Issues (Spr2017, 2015-2016)
Dean's Funding Innovations Committee (2014-2015)
Center for Latin American & Caribbean Studies Graduate Committee (2020-2021, 2012-2014)
Advisory Board, Women's, Gender, & Sexuality Studies Program, KU (2009 – 2013)
affiliate: Global & International Studies, African & African American Studies, Latin American & Caribbean Studies, Women, Gender, & Sexuality Studies, French, Francophone, & Italian Lit.
Langston Hughes Visiting Professor Committee (2006-2018)
CLAS Dean Search Committee, KU (Fall 2005)
American Studies Faculty Re-Evaluation Committee, KU (Fall 2005)
Hall Center for the Humanities Executive Committee, KU (2001-2002)
Hall Center Travel Grants Committee (2001-2002)
University Libraries Search Committee for Special Collections Librarian (Fall 2010)
5-Year Review Committee, Dean Ann Brill, School of Journalism, KU (Fall 2009)
Library Appeals Board, Chair (2012-present, 2004-2006)
Judge, Dean's Scholars Program Student Research Projects, KU (Spring 2004)
Mentor, Dean's Scholars Program, KU (Fall 2001-Spring 2002, Spring 1999-Spring 2002)
Mentor, University Scholars Program, KU (Spring 1999-Spring 2002)

SERVICE, continued:

Langston Hughes Advisory Committee, KU (2000-2005)
The Pre-Freshman Program, English Coordinator, U. of Pennsylvania (Spring/Summer 1997, 1998)
Afro-American Studies Summer Institute for Pre-Freshmen, Graduate Fellow, U. of Pennsylvania
(July 1997, July 1996 - Head Graduate Fellow, July 1995)
McNair Scholars Graduate Recruitment, Host/Panelist for the Vice-Provost's Office, U. of Penn (1996-97)

Community, State, Region:

"The Soucouyant." Recording for the Humanities Kansas Hotline (Oct. 15–29, 2020)
Paper Plains Literary Festival, Board of Directors – Lawrence, KS (2019-2022)
Yale Alumni Interviews – Lawrence, KS (Dec. 2015, Jan. 2010) and Kansas City, MO (Feb. 2016)
"Value of an English Education" visits to local high schools (Topeka High School, Jan. 2019, Oct. 2015)
Discussion leader for Kansas City, KS Libraries Book Clubs on Edwidge Danticat's *Brother, I'm Dying*
(Feb. 6 and 20, 2013)
Lecturer on the work of Haitian writer Edwidge Danticat for KU's Latin American & Caribbean Studies
Educator Workshop on the Caribbean for K-12 teachers, Spencer Museum of Art (Jan. 26, 2013)
Invited Speaker (Toni Morrison's *Song of Solomon* and Ernest Gaines' *The Autobiography of Miss Jane Pittman*): 4 AP English classes at Wm Chrisman High School, Independence, MO (Feb 2011)
Yale Day of Service, KCMO Planning Committee, Kansas City, MO (Spr 2010 and 2009)
Participation: May 2019 (Front Porch Alliance), May 2018 (Sleepyhead Beds), May 2014 (The
Upper Room), May 2010 (Gillis House), May 2009 (Rose Brooks Women's Shelter)
Discussion Leader, Black History Month Youth Programs: An Intergenerational Dialogue on Race in the
U.S. – Looking at Toni Morrison's "Recitatif," Johnson County Public Library, KS (Feb 10, 2007)
Multicultural Achievement Partnership and Outreach, KU Black Faculty and Staff Council
Initiative with Free State High School (1999-2000)
Youth Friends Mentor, Literary Magazine Editor, Symington Elementary School, Hickman Mills School
District, MO (2004-2005)
African Literature Association International Conference of 2000, Planning Committee, KU (1998-2000)

National:

Editorial Board, *Women, Gender, and Families of Color*, Univ. of Illinois Press (2018-2022, 2014-2015)
Editorial Board, *Tulsa Studies in Women's Literature* (2010-2014)
Manuscript reader: Rutgers UP, U of Virginia Press, U of Georgia Press, Ohio State UP, Broadview Press

International:

Association of Caribbean Women Writers & Scholars (ACWWS) – Active Member (1996 – present)
Book Award Committee (elected), Children's Literature Association (June 2019 – June 2022)
Affiliated faculty member of the new M.A. program in English Languages and Culturas at the Univ. of
Guadalajara, Mexico (Spring 2014 – 2022)
Caribbean Studies Association Literary Salon Organizing Committee (2012-2013)
inc. organized writing contest for grade-school children in Grenada (Spring 2013)
nominated for the MLA Executive Committee on Children's Literature (2010)
PhD Seminar Assessor: Chapter 2: "Nalo Hopkinson's *Midnight Robber*: The New Caribbean
Bildungsroman." University of the West Indies-St. Augustine Campus, Department of Literary,
Cultural & Communication Studies, Trinidad & Tobago (Spring 2021)
Dissertation reader: *Feminist Afrofuturisms and the Politics of Death in the Selected Works of Nalo
Hopkinson, Nnedi Okorafor, and Wanuri Kahiu*. Univ. of Manitoba, Canada (Spring 2023)
Dissertation reader: *Shaping Identity: A Study of African American Young Adult Fiction with Special
Reference to Selected Novels of Walter Dean Myers, Mildred D. Taylor and Angela Johnson*. Sant
Longowal Institute of Engineering & Technology, Longowal, Punjab, India (Winter 2019)

SERVICE, continued:

Dissertation reader: *The Politics of Empowerment: Young Adult Literature, Heterotopia, and the Possibility of Social Change*, University of Melbourne, Australia (Fall 2015)

Dissertation reader: *Opening the door to Darkness: An Exploration of Evil in J.K. Rowling's Harry Potter Series*, University of Haifa, Israel (Spring 2010)

Dissertation reader: *The Angst of African-American and Dalit Women: A Comparative Study of the Select Works of Toni Morrison and Bama*, Bharathiar University, India (Summer 2009)

REVIEWER of ARTICLES for the following journals:

African American Review; *American Studies*; *Anthurium*; *FIAR: Forum for Inter-American Research* (Special Issue on Eco-poetics and Ethnic Environments); *Hypatia: A Journal of Feminist Philosophy*; *The Journal of West Indian Literature*; *The Lion and the Unicorn*; *The Looking Glass* (peer-reviewed online journal); *Meridians: Feminism, Race, Transnationalism*; *PMLA*; *SX – The Small Axe Project*; *Tulsa Studies in Women's Literature*; *Women, Gender, and Families of Color*

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS:

Association of Caribbean Women Writers & Scholars, Caribbean Studies Association, Children's Literature Association, Modern Language Association, Society for the Study of Multi-Ethnic Literature of the United States, Society of Children's Book Writers & Illustrators, Toni Morrison Society

REFERENCES: Available upon request.