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Education

PhD, Cornell University, English: "Aesthetic and Ideological Radicalism in the 1930's"(Saunders Redding, Robert Elias, Cushing Strout). Areas of Specialization: African American Literature, 19th Century American Literature and Thought, Twentieth Century Novel

MPS, Cornell University, Africana Studies. "Blackness, Womanness and Art: A Theory of Feminism."

MA, Northwestern University, English. "The Complete Works of Frances E.W. Harper" (dir. Margaret Walker)

BAUniversity of North Carolina, Chapel Hill: English and Journalism

- Paine College, Augusta, GA (one year, transferred)

Employment History

Faculty Appointments

1999-present Professor of English, Director, Project on the History of Black Writing, University of Kansas
1998-Spring Langston Hughes Visiting Professor, English Department, University of Kansas
1990-98 Associate/Full Professor of English & African-American Studies, Northeastern University.
Promoted 1994
1989-90 Visiting Associate Professor of African American Studies, Harvard University
1983-89 Assistant and Associate Professor of English, University of Mississippi. Promoted 1988
1980-83 Lecturer/Assistant Professor of English, Chicago State University

Record of Research and Publications

Major Books

2012 *The House Where My Soul Lives: The Life of Margaret Walker*. Oxford
2011 *Cambridge History of African American Literature*. Cambridge
2004 *Cambridge Companion to the African American Novel*. Cambridge
2002 *Conversations with Margaret Walker*. Mississippi
2001 *Fields Watered with Blood: Critical Essays on Margaret Walker*. Georgia
1998 *Teaching African American Literature: Theory and Practice*. Routledge
1997 *On Being Female, Black and Free: Collected Writings of Margaret Walker*. Tennessee
1995 *Conversations with Ralph Ellison*. Mississippi
1990 *How I Wrote JUBILEE and Other Essays on Life and Literature by Margaret Walker*. Feminist Press
1988 *The Complete Poems of Frances E.W. Harper: An Annotated Critical History*. Oxford

Book Chapters, Introductions

2009 "A Blessed Life," *Shaping Memories: Lives and Times of Women*, Ed. Joanne Gabbin. Mississippi. 129-137.
2008 "Negotiating Memory: Nationalism, Globalism and the New World Novel," *Transcultural Visions of Identities in Images and Texts*, Ed. Wilfried Raussert. Universitätsverlag: Heidelberg. 281-308.
2001 "Margaret Walker: The Most Famous Person Nobody Knows," *Fields Watered With Blood: Critical Essays on Margaret Walker*. Ed. Maryemma Graham. Georgia. 1-8.
2001 "'I Want to Write, I Want to Write the Songs of My People,'" *Fields Watered with Blood: Critical Essays on Margaret Walker*. Ed. Maryemma Graham. Georgia. 11-27.
1993 "Censorship and Richard Wright's Black Boy," *Censored Books: Critical Viewpoints*. Ed. Nicholas J. Karolides, Lee Burrell, and John M. Kean. Scarecrow (with Jerry W. Ward, Jr.). 109-116
1993 "Langston Hughes: The Practice of a Social Art," *Critical Perspectives Past and Present*. Ed. Henry Louis Gates, Jr., and K. A. Appiah. Amistad. 213-236
1993 "Introduction," *The Outsider*. HarperCollins (Haper Perennial edition). xi-xxix

Curriculum Vitae Maryemma Graham

1986 "Introduction," *Mississippi Writers: Reflections of Childhood and Youth. Vol. II* (Nonfiction). Ed. Dorothy Abbott. Mississippi. xii-xxx.

Articles

- 2002 "Langston Hughes: The Beat Goes on," *Crisis* (January/February): 36-39. Invited
- 2000 "The Final Clenching: An Introduction to Margaret Walker," *Meridian* 5 (Spring): 94-117. Peer-Reviewed
- 1999 "Margaret Walker: Fully a Woman, Fully a Poet," *The Black Scholar* 29(2-3): 37-46. Peer-Reviewed
- 1996 "Healer in the Village: Toni Morrison," *Humanities* 17:1 (March/April): 28-31. Invited
- 1993 "Introduction," *The Outsider*. HarperCollins (Harper Perennial edition) xi-xxix
- 1990 "Bearing Witness in Black Chicago: A View of Selected Fiction by Richard Wright, Frank London Brown, and Ronald Fair," *CLA Journal* 33:3 (March): 280-97. Peer-Reviewed
- 1990 "The Origins of Afro-American Fiction," *Proceedings of the American Antiquarian Society* 100: 231-49. Peer Reviewed
- 1988 "The Afro-American Novel Project," *Journal of Literary Research* 13(1): 21-31. Peer-Reviewed
- 1986 *Callaloo* 9:3 (Summer)--special issue on Richard Wright. Edited with Introduction. Johns Hopkins Journals Group. Peer-Reviewed
- 1985 "Frank Yerby, King of the Costume Novel," *Essence* (October): 70-92 (Invite)
- 1983 "Politics in Black and White: A View of Walt Whitman's Career as a Political Journalist," *CLA Journal* 17:2 (December, 1973): 263-70. Peer-Reviewed

Digital Publications

- 2008 "Harlem Renaissance," *Digital Schomburg*. Invited.
- 2008 "Toni Morrison and the New World Novel," 2008. Invited.
<http://www.interamerica.de/index.php?option=com>
- 1999 *Library of Black America, Encarta Africana 2000*, Microsoft Corporation(75 novels from the Project on the History of Black Writing). Invited.

Minor Publications

- 2010 "Margaret Walker," *The Chicago Renaissance, Dictionary of Literary Biography*, Ed. Steven C. Tracy. University of Illinois. Invited
- 2009 An Interview with Edward P. Jones, *African American Review* Spring 33 (3/4 Fall):421-438.
- 2006 Review. Edward P. Jones, *All Aunt Hagar's Children*, *African American Review* 40:3 (Winter):10-12.
- 2003 "Ralph Ellison 1913-1994: A Brief Biography," *The Oxford Historical Guide to Ralph Ellison*. Ed. Steven C. Tracy. Oxford UP (with Jeffery D. Mack). 19-55. Invited.
- 2000 *KU Poets* (From English 570; privately published)
- 1997 "The African American Novel," *Oxford Companion to African American Literature*. Eds. William L. Andrews, Frances Smith Foster, Trudier Harris. Oxford UP: 541-548. Invited.
- 1996 Review. Frances Smith Foster, ed. *Minnie's Sacrifice; Sowing and Reaping: Trial and Triumph: Three Undiscovered Novels by Frances E. W. Harper*. *African American Review* 30:2 (Summer): 302-04
- 1994 Review. Francis Smith Foster. *Written by Herself: Literary Production by African American Women, 1746-1892*; Frances Smith Foster, ed. *Minnie's Sacrifice; Sowing and Reaping: Trial and Triumph: Three Undiscovered Novels by Frances E. W. Harper*. *Tulsa Studies in Women's Literature* 14:2 (Fall):384-87
- 1994 "Margaret Walker," *Heath Anthology of American Literature*, rev. ed., Ed. Paul Lauter, et al. D.C Heath. Invited.
- 1994 "Margaret Walker (1915) Writer," *Encyclopedia of African American Culture and History*. Ed. Jack Salzman and Robert O'Meally. Macmillan. Invited.
- 1993 "The Fusion of Ideas: An Interview with Margaret Walker," *African American Review* 27:2 (Summer): 279-86
- 1991 Review. Elliot Butler-Evans. *Race, Gender and Desire: Narrative Strategies in the Fiction of Toni Cade Bambara, Toni Morrison and Alice Walker*, *Studies in American Fiction* 19:1 (Spring): 20-22. Invited
- 1990 Review Essay: "Historicizing the Black Experience: or, Telling One's Own Story." August Meier and Eliot Rudwick. *Black History and the Historical Profession 1915-1980*; Henry Louis Gates, Jr. *Figures in Black: Words Signs and the "Racial" Self*; Houston A. Baker, Jr. *Modernism and the Harlem Renaissance*; Jean Fagan Yellin, ed. Harriet A. Jacobs, *Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl: Written by Herself*; and Melvin

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- Dixon. *Ride Out the Wilderness: Geography and Identity in Afro-American Literature*. *College English* 52:2 (February): 194-202. Invited
- 1989 *Introduction to Afro-American Studies: A Peoples College Primer*. Peoples College Press, 1989 (with Abdul Alkalimat and Ronald Bailey)
- 1988 Review. Valerie Smith. *Self-Discovery and Authority in Afro-American Narrative*, *Legacy* 5:1 (Spring): 59-50. Invited
- 1984-88 *The Afro-American Novel: A Study Guide*. Annual publication. University of Mississippi.
- 1986 *Mississippi Mindscape: Rituals*. Mississippi Humanities Committee (with Joanne V. Hawks)
- 1986 "Frances Ellen Watkins Harper," *Dictionary of Literary Biography: Afro-American Writers from the Before the Harlem Renaissance*. Ed. Trudier Harris. Gale Research. 164-173. Invited.
- 1985 Review. Nellie McKay. *Jean Toomer Artist*, *Black American Literature Forum* 19:2 (Summer): 91-93
- 1984 *Student Writers Handbook*. University of Mississippi, 1984
- 1984 "Charles Johnson," *Dictionary of Literary Biography: Afro-American Novelists Since 1955*. Ed. Thadious Davis and Trudier Harris. Gale Research. 124-127.
- 1983 Review. Alice Walker. *The Color Purple*, *Freedomways* 23(4): 16-18
- 1982 "Frank Yerby, King of the Costume Novel," Excerpt Rpt. in *Contemporary Literary Criticism*. Detroit: Gale Publishing. 491. Invited

Works Ready for Submission

- Editor, *Margaret Walker Papers: A Digital Archives*. (Funded 2008-2010 by Ford Foundation)
- "'Black is Gold': African American Literature and New Literacies," *The Living Canon: Contemporary Theory and Pedagogy in African American Literature*. Eds. L. Valerie King and Shirley Moody. Indiana UP.

Scholarly Presentations

- 2010 "A Canon of Her Own: Nikki Giovanni in the Making," Gwendolyn Brooks Writers Conference, Chicago State. Keynote address, April
- 2009 "Return to the Source: Reading, Writing and the new NBA [New Black Aesthetic]," Pennsylvania State. Keynote address, October
- 2009 "Teaching Richard Wright in the 21st Century," University of Utah. Keynote address, March
- 2008 Richard Wright Roundtable, MLA, San Francisco, December.
- 2008 "Making the Wright Connection: A Centennial Journey," Dallas African American Museum. Keynote address, November
- 2008 "HBCU Digitization Initiative," Association for the Study of Afro American Life and History, Birmingham. October
- 2008 "Richard Wright at 100," Fall for the Book Annual Book Festival, George Mason. September
- 2008 "Transnationalism in Transition," (IABE) Academy for Global Studies, South Stockholm University, Sweden. June
- 2008 "Toni Morrison: Cultural Memory and the New World Novel," Bielefeld University, Germany. Visiting Scholar Seminar, June
- 2008 "Richard Wright and the Culture of Auto/Biography," American University of Paris, France. June.
- 2008 "Richard Wright and the Culture of Auto/Biography," Hiroshima Jogakuin University, Japan. Visiting Scholar Seminar, June
- 2008 "Richard Wright: Making International Connections," Tsuru University, Japan
http://www.tsuru.ac.jp/index_eng.html. Visiting Scholar Seminar, June
- 2008 Margaret Walker Alexander National Research Center Anniversary. Jackson State. Keynote address, March
- 2008 "Richard Wright at 100: Looking Back, Looking Forward," Schomburg Center for Research, New York Public Library [C-SPAN]. Panel organizer/presenter, March
- 2008 "Black Women and the Black Aesthetic," 40 Years of Black Studies, Jackson State University. Keynote address, March
- 2008 "Margaret Walker and Richard Wright: An Extraordinary Friendship," Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration, MS. Keynote address, February.
- 2008 "African American Fiction from Richard Wright to Edward Jones," Howard University. February.
- 2007 "Margaret Walker's Journals as Spiritual Autobiography," KU-Hall Center Fellowship Lecture, October.

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- 2007 "The Journal as Literature: A Case Study of the Journals of Margaret Walker," University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, Institute for African American Research Lecture, February
- 2006 "Writing Lives After Harriet Jacobs," Harriet Jacobs Symposium: Legacies, Pace University. October
- 2006 "Autobiography as Spiritual Mediation: The Journals of Margaret Walker," Int'l Autobiography Ass., Mainz, Germany. July.
- 2006 "The Poetry of the Civil Rights Movement," College Language Ass., Birmingham. April.
- 2006 "Exploring the Tradition of Black Women's Poetry," North Carolina Central. Endowed Lecture, April.
- 2005 "Knowing Langston: The Global Dimension of Friendship and Art," MLA, San Francisco. December.
- 2005 "Toni Morrison and the New World Novel," University of Georgia. Eidson Endowed Lecture, March.
- 2005 "Toni Morrison and the New World Novel," University of Copenhagen. Invited lecture, February
- 2004 "Emergent Black Nationalism: The Example of Sutton E. Griggs and Orion Publishing, Nashville, 1908-1911," CLA, Nashville. April
- 2004 "How Black Writers Write: A Workshop for Teachers," Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration, MS. Invitational Workshop, February.
- 2004 "Langston Hughes and New World Poetry," University of Florida, Gainesville. Invited lecture, February
- 2003 "Growing out of Shadow: The Emergence of Margaret Walker," University of Missouri, Columbia. Invited lecture, November.
- 2003 "Papa's Child: The Early Years of Margaret Walker," University of Missouri, Kansas City. Invited lecture, October.
- 2002 "Visible Ellison: Representing Blackness in Theory and Practice," CLA, Memphis. April
- 2001 "Crafting a Vision: The Early Years of Margaret Walker," CLA New Orleans. April.
- 2001 "A Writing Life in Mississippi: Margaret Walker," Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration. February
- 1999 "Creating a Community of Memory: Margaret Walker's Jubilee," ALA Baltimore. May.
- 1998 "Going to Chicago: From Child to Poet" (chapter from Walker biography), Schomburg Center for Research, New York Public Library. Fellowship lecture, May
- 1998 "'I Want to Write, I Want to Write the Songs of My People': Voice and Vision in the Poetry of Margaret Walker," George Moses Horton Conference, North Carolina Literary Festival, UNC. April
- 1998 "Touching the Sun, Again: Contemporary African American Women Writers," University of Toledo. Invited lecture, February
- 1997 "Margaret Walker: Poet/Humanist," Annual Black Poetry Festival, University of Missouri, Columbia. Keynote address, October
- 1996 "Richard Wright's and Margaret Walker's Mississippi," Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration. June.
- 1996 "The Political Thought of Richard Wright: The U.S. Years," Southern Intellectual History Circle, Jesus College, Cambridge University, England. Invited Keynote address, May.
- 1993 "The Literature of the Great Migration," Harvard University, Du Bois Institute Fellowship lecture, January
- 1993 "Black Writers in Florida and the South: A Reconsideration," CLA, Ft. Lauderdale, FL. Annual Conference panel/paper, April
- 1993 "Revisiting the South in African American Literature, Southern Intellectual History Circle, University of Mississippi, Oxford. February
- 1992 "Reconceptualizing Richard Wright," ALA, San Diego. May
- 1992 "If I'm Lyin', I'm Flyin': Fictional Representation in the Fiction of Zora Neale Hurston and Richard Wright," Harvard University, Du Bois Institute. Colloquium lecture, April
- 1992 "The World as Seen from the Margins: Rethinking the Content and Context of African American Discourse," Brown University. Whetmore Endowed lecture, April
- 1992 "Creating Canons in African American Literature: The Example of Tennessee," with Nikki Giovanni, CLA, Knoxville. April
- 1992 "Voices of Absence: Expatriation as a Redefinition of Community," The Sorbonne, Paris. February
- 1992 "Race, Revision, and Reaction: The Rise of the New Conservatism in U.S. Higher Education," ASA, Baltimore. November.
- 1991 "A Hundred Years of Black Women's Writing in South Carolina," CLA, Columbia, SC. April
- 1990 "The (W)right Way: Art and Ideology in Wright's Prose," ALA, Long Beach. May
- 1990 "Self and Society in African American Autobiography," Conference on Southern Autobiography, University of Arkansas, Pine Bluff. Invited paper, April

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- 1990 "Literary Archaeology and the Afro-American Novel," Harvard University, Du Bois Institute. Colloquium lecture, March
- 1989 "Women and the Humanities: Rethinking the past, Reshaping the Future," Spelman College, Atlanta. Founder's Day Symposium lecture, October
- 1988 "Fictionalizing History or Historicizing Fiction: A Case Study of *Jubilee*," MLA, New Orleans. December
- 1988 "Richard Wright and Intellectual History," Gorky Institute for World Literature, Moscow, Russia. Invited lecture, July

Exhibitions and Performances

- 2009 "Lineage: A Margaret Walker Song Cycle," a musical performance/adaptation of Margaret Walker's poetry volume *For My People* by composer Randy Klein. KU Hall Center for the Humanities. A performance, consisting of music, vocals, visuals, and dialogue
- 1990 Exhibit Curator, "African American Holdings in the American Antiquarian Society" & Exhibit Catalog, *Afro-American Authorship in the Collections of the American Antiquarian Society*. February

Minor Presentations

- 2008-10 "Language Hughes in Lawrence," Langston Hughes Creative Writing Award Presentation. Lawrence Art Center. February.
- 2008 Respondent: "Difficult Dialogues: Race, Education and American Politics," KU Hall Center for the Humanities. October
- 2005-08 "Black History in the Making," annual lectures in Georgia, South Carolina, Mississippi, Louisiana, Mississippi. February
- 2003 Panelist, "The Legacy of Malcolm X," with Amiri Baraka, Brookline Adult and Community Education Program, Boston. Invited talk, February
- 1995 "Africa and the American South in the Black Imagination," Museum of Fine Arts, Boston. Invited talk, March
- 1994 "The Chicago Renaissance," DuSable Museum, Chicago. Invited talk, February
- 1990-93 Various invited lectures in Boston Public Schools
- 1992 "Black Writing in Boston," Old South Church, Boston. Invited talk, February

Grants and Funded Projects

External Funding

National Endowment for the Humanities

- 2010 "Language Matters IV: Reading and Teaching Toni Morrison in Translation" \$25,000
- 2009 "Making the Wright Connection: Teaching *Black Boy*, *Native Son*, and *Uncle Tom's Children* \$200,000 (digital and onsite project)
- 2004 "Language Matters II: Reading and Teaching Toni Morrison, The Cardozo Project Model" \$75,000
- 2003 "Speaking of Rivers: Taking Poetry to the People" (implementation) \$234,000
- 2002 "Language Matters I: Reading and Teaching Toni Morrison" \$25,000
- 2001 "Speaking of Rivers: Taking Poetry to the People" (planning) \$40,500
- 1996 "The Middle Passage: The Making of the Atlantic World" \$221,000
- 1995 "The Middle Passage and Beyond" \$25,000 (ASAALH/ Regional Institute)
- 1994 "From Phillis Wheatley to Toni Morrison: Developing Mentor Teachers for African American Literature II" \$215,000
- 1993 "Multi-Cultural Resources of Humanities Teachers" \$235,000
- 1992 "The Great Migration, 1900-1939" (with Harvard University School of Education) \$250,000
- 1989 "The Afro-American Novel Project: Building a Database for African American Literature" \$350,000
- 1985 "Mississippi's Native Son: International Symposium on Richard Wright" \$50,000

Foundation Grants: Refereed

- 2003 Ford Foundation, "The Borders of Race: A Research/Teaching Project \$300,000 (with the Hall Center)
- 1999 Microsoft Corporation, \$15,000: *Encarta Africana*, Ed. Henry Louis Gates, Jr.

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- 1996 Lemuelson Foundation: CD-Rom Prototype \$50,000
1991 Ruth Batson Educational Foundation \$10,000
1987 Ford Foundation: The Afro-American Novel Project \$50,000

State/Regional Grants: Refereed

- 2002 Kansas Humanities Council: "Langston Hughes February Festival" \$5800
2001 Kansas Humanities Council: "Reading and Remembering Langston Hughes" \$15,000
1993 Massachusetts Foundation for Humanities: "African American Studies Teacher Development" \$15,000
1993 Massachusetts Foundation for the Humanities: "A Reading by Charles Johnson" \$5000
1985 Mississippi Arts Commission Grant: "Mississippi's Native Son: Richard Wright Symposium" \$10,000
1985 Mississippi Committee for the Humanities: "Mississippi's Native Son" \$20,000
1985 Southern Education Fund: "Mississippi's Native Son" \$25,000

Internal Funding

- 2007 Hall Center Faculty Fellowship, University of Kansas Fall
2006 General Research Fund, "Stolen Legacy: Writings by Free Blacks in the 18th & 19th Centuries" \$8,200
2002 Hall Center Travel Grant, to visit Vivian Harsch Collection and Chicago Historical Society \$4500
1999-
2009 Hall Center for the Humanities \$10,000 annually for Oral History Workshop

D. Honors and Awards for Research

- 2010 International Literary Hall of Fame for Writers of African Descent Lifetime Achievement, CSU
2009 Senior Research Fellow, University of Texas, San Antonio
2005-
2007 John Hope Franklin Fellow, National Humanities Center
2005 Stanford Humanities Center Fellowship (declined)
2005 Darwin T. Turner Award for Outstanding Contributions in Scholarship, American Literature Ass.
2005 American Embassy Fellow (Tubingen, Stuttgart, and Nurnberg, Germany)
5 lectures: "African American Studies and the Liberal Arts Tradition" February
2002 Senior Fellowship, American Committee of Learned Societies
1997 Mellon-Schomburg Fellow, NYPL (Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture)
1996 Smithsonian Fellow, National Museum of American History
1995 Ford Senior Fellowship, Association for the Study of Afro-American History (Washington, DC)
1993 Mellon Resident Fellow, Stillman College, AL. Fall
1990 W. E. B. Du Bois Fellow, Harvard University
1989 Residential Fellow, American Antiquarian Society, Worcester, MA
1981-83 Ford Doctoral Fellowship

Teaching (Selected)

Courses Taught at the University of Kansas

Undergraduate

- Writing the Self (annually)
Major American Writers (annually)
Major Authors: Morrison/Wright
Survey of African American Literature
Studies in Fiction and Film
Media and Autobiography
Life Writing in US Narratives and Beyond

Graduate

- Foundations of American Autobiography (annually)
The Slave Narrative and Its Tradition (biennially)
Rise of the Novel

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Literary and Cultural Theory

Directed Readings: Native American autobiography, Chicano autobiography, young adult autobiography, autobiographical fiction

Theses and Dissertations 2005-2010 (Committee Chair, KU)

15 Undergraduate honors theses

5 MA's (completed)

6 PhD's (completed)

4 PhD's (in progress)

Other

KU: Service on 25 MA and PhD committees in English and American Studies between 2005 and 2010

My Former Students are employed at colleges and universities in the US and abroad and are working in public service, the film industry, and in professional fields, including law, medicine, and journalism

Honors and Awards for Teaching

2007 Grier Award for Excellence in Scholarship and Teaching, University of Kansas

2005 Steeples Award for Outstanding Service to the People of Kansas

2005 Outstanding Educator, University of Kansas Torch Chapter of the Mortar Board

2003 Alice Dunbar Nelson Professor-in-Residence, Dillard University (2 weeks)

2002 Women's Hall of Fame, University of Kansas

1994 Martin Luther King Social Justice Teaching Award, Boston City Council

Service Record (selected)

University of Kansas Service

English Department:

2010 Member, Advisory Committee (also 1998-2000)

2010 Member, External Review Committee

2009-2010 Member, Graduate Committee

2008-present Chair, Summer Institutes Committee

2008-2009 Organizer, Chair Search Committee

2008 Member, Public Relations and Alumni Affairs Committee

2003-present Advisor, University Honor's Program, University of Kansas

2001-present Founding Member, Ad Hoc African Americanists and Affiliates

2000-2002 Hall Center Professor Selection Committee

1999-2004 Chair, October Conference/New Literacies Conference Committee

University

2008-10 Mentor/Coach for Marshall and Fulbright nominees, Honors Program

2008-09 Spencer Research Library Director Search Committee

2006-present Chair, Langston Hughes Visiting Professor Committee (member since 2001)

2005-present Host for Visiting Fulbright Faculty

2005-present Advisor for Mellon, Ford applications and awardees

2000-02 Co-Chair, Langston Hughes Centennial Celebration

2001-02 Chair, Black Faculty and Staff Council (member since 1991)

2001-02 Member, University Governance Council

1999-2000 Member, Director of Office of Multicultural Affairs Search Committee

1999-2009 Founder/Organizer, Annual Oral History Workshop

1999-2000 Member, Hall Center Lecture Series Committee

College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

2008-10 Member, Digital Directions for Scholarship Task Force

2003-06 Senior Faculty Advisor, "The Borders of Race" Ford Foundation Grant

2000-01 Member, American Studies Program Search Committee

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Service Outside the University

Local/State

- 2009-present Advisor, Brown Foundation for Education, Excellence and Research, Topeka, KS
2008 Consultant, Mississippi Humanities Council: "4 W's: Welty, Williams, Wright, and Walker"
2007 Founding Member, Visual Voices Alliance (VIVA), Community Art Initiative, Lawrence, KS-
2006 Consultant, USD 497 (Lawrence, KS)
2002-08 Member, Women's Oral History Project, Lawrence, KS
2002 Member, Advisory Committee, Read Across Lawrence, Lawrence Public Library, KS
2002-present Evaluator/Presenter, Langston Hughes Creative Writing Awards, Lawrence, KS
1987-89 Consultant, Mississippi Committee for the Humanities, "Humanities and the Quest for Meaning"
1982-84 Advisor, University of Illinois, "Developing Humanities Based Model Courses for a Core Curriculum in Afro-American Research," NEH Grant
1982-83 Member, Chicago Afro-American Family History Project
1982-83 Judge, Chicago NAACP Academic Olympics Program,
1982-83 Organizer, The Children's Hour Reading Program, Chicago Housing Authority
1980-82 Volunteer Educator, Prison Education Program, Cook County Jail, Chicago
1980-81 Advisor, Chicago Center for Afro-American Studies and Research, "Chicago's Black History in the Making: Views from the Inside," Illinois Humanities Council Grant
1979-82 Founding Member, Timbuktu Bookstore Collective, Chicago

National

- 2010 Advisory Committee, Howard University, Department of English and Humanities, "New Literary Histories: Words, Works, Archives"
2009-present Advisor, College of Education and Human Development, University of Texas, San Antonio
2009 Consulting Editor, *Black Literature Criticism: Classics and Emerging Authors*, Thompson
2007-2009 Consultant, Film Documentary: *The Soul of a People: Writing America's Story*. Spark Media
2006-present Evaluator, National Research Council (Ford, Mellon applications)
2005-present Evaluator, National Humanities Center
2005 Chair, 4th, TMS Biennial Conference, "Toni Morrison and Sites of Memory, Cincinnati, July
2005-present Consultant/Presenter, Schomburg-Mellon Summer Institute, Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, New York Public Library July lectures annually
2003 Co-Chair, 3rd TMS Biennial Conference, "Toni Morrison and the Politics of Learning," Howard University. June
2003-05;95-98 Peer Reviewer, National Endowment for the Humanities
1998-present National Advisory Board/Senior Consultant, Margaret Walker Archives, Margaret Walker Alexander National Research Center, Jackson State University, Mississippi (Ford and NEH Grant
1997 Consultant, Film Documentary: *For My People: The Life & Writing of Margaret Walker*. Juneteenth Productions, Judith McCray writer/director
1995 Consultant, Film Documentary: *Native Son*. Cronkite Ward Productions
1993 Consultant, Film Documentary: *Black Boy*. Mississippi Educational Television, Madison Davis Lacy writer/director
1993 Panelist, Black History Teleconference, South Carolina ETV. February
1990-98 Convener, Richard Wright Circle (with Jerry W. Ward, Jr.) and Editor, *RW Circle Newsletter* (also 2010-present)
1992-present Chair, Black Studies Committee, College Language Association (elected)
1992 Consultant, Central Connecticut State University
1990 Director, "Doing the (W)right Thing: A Fiftieth Anniversary Celebration of *Native Son*," Northeastern University, Boston. May
1989 Consultant, Film Documentary: *Margaret Walker at 74*. WGBH, Boston
1989-93 Member, Executive Council, American Studies Association
1985 Director, "Mississippi's Native Son: An International Symposium on Richard Wright," University of Mississippi. November
1985-present Peer Reviewer for: *MELUS*, *Twentieth Century Literature*, Johns Hopkins U P, Wayne State

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- U P, Northeastern U P, University of Tennessee, *PMLA*, *American Quarterly*, Cambridge U P, *Callaloo*, *African American Review*, *College English*, *Journal of American Studies*
- 1989-90 Compiler, Annual Bibliography of Afro-American Literature, *Callaloo*, 1989-1990 (with Dolan Hubbard)
- 1980-present Professional Association and Organizational Memberships
Academy of American Poets, American Antiquarian Society, American Literature and Culture Society, American Studies Association, American Literature Association, College Language Association, International Auto/Biography Association, Langston Hughes Society, Modern Language Association, National Council Teachers of English, National Council for Black Studies, Richard Wright Circle, Society for the Study of Southern Literature, Southern Conference on Afro-American Studies, Zora Neale Hurston Society, John Edgar Wideman Society, and Alice Childress Society, Wintergreen Women Writers' Collective

International

- 2010 Advisory Editor, Oxford Bibliography Online, American Literature Area
- 2008-10 Co-chair, Sixth Biennial Conference, "Toni Morrison and Circuits of the Imagination, Paris, France. November
- 2006-08 Chair, Richard Wright International Centennial Committee
- 2003-present Director, Language Matters Service Initiative (NEH-funded professional development program)
- 2003-2006 President, Toni Morrison Society
- 2002-2006 Founder/Director, Langston Hughes Poetry Project (NEH funded public program)
- 1989-92 Elected MLA Positions: Member, Committee for the Literatures and Languages of America of the Modern Language Association, 1989-1992; Member, *PMLA Bibliography Committee*, 1992-94; Chair, Black American Literature and Culture Division, 1990-93 & Division Member, 2009-present; Delegate Assembly Member, 1988-90

For further information on initiatives developed, see the following:

Project on the History of Black Writing (founded, 1983-)

<http://www.hbw.ku.edu/>

Language Matters Service Initiative (2003-)

<http://www2.ku.edu/~langmtrs/>

Langston Hughes Poetry Project (2003-2006)

<http://www.continuinged.ku.edu/hughes/>

The Wright Connection (2009-)

Virtual Studies Center for Richard Wright and related topics

www.wrightconnection.ku.edu/