

DONNA AKIBA SULLIVAN HARPER

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AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

Fuller E. Callaway Professor (2008). Funded by the Callaway Foundation, the Fuller E. Callaway Professorial Chair enriches the academic programs of 33 colleges and graduate schools. I am only the fourth person in Spelman's history to be named a Callaway Professor. This endowed chair is retained until retirement or death.

Spelman College Faculty Award in African American Literature (1999);

Spelman College 1995 Presidential Faculty Award for Scholarly Achievement, presented May 22, 1995. This presentation celebrated my work as editor and author.

Distinguished Teacher Award, funded by the Sears-Roebuck Foundation Teaching Excellence and Campus Leadership Award Program (1991).

The Langston Hughes Prize for Excellence in Literature and Vision. Presented at the 58th College Language Association Convention, 16 April 1998, Tallahassee, Florida. I was the first person honored with this award. I was honored for helping to found the Langston Hughes Society and for having served as president for several years.

Highlighted "success story" for Oberlin College. I am one of 15 Oberlin College graduates featured in In Their Shadow/ In Their Light: A Celebration of Oberlin Alumni and the Teachers who Touched Their Lives. Oberlin College, Oberlin, Ohio, 1999. I appear with my Oberlin mentor, Calvin C. Hernton.

Interviewed by Andrew Kaplan in Choices: Careers for Wordsmiths, (Brookfield, Connecticut: Millbrook Press, 1991): 54-57. I was one of two dozen persons interviewed and photographed to help people consider their career options if they love words.

Representative for the Class of 1971 in the Twentieth Anniversary Celebration of the Presidential Scholars Program, Washington, D.C., June 18-22, 1984. Of all the Presidential Scholars of 1971, I was asked to represent the entire class.

Omicron Delta Kappa, National Leadership Society, Emory University, 1982. Leadership contributions are evaluated for selection into this honorary society.

Danforth Graduate Fellow. This national competitive fellowship program required an application, recommendation letters, and an interview. It honored students showing promise for completing the Ph.D. and for success in college-level teaching. Awarded 1977.

Phi Beta Kappa, Zeta of Ohio, Oberlin College, May, 1975.

National Achievement Scholar. National Merit Finalist. 1971.

Presidential Scholar from Virginia, 1971.

EDUCATION and PROFESSIONAL ENRICHMENT

DOCTORATE OF PHILOSOPHY, (Ph.D.), 1988, Emory University, Atlanta, Georgia.

M. A., American Studies, 1985. Emory University. Institute of Liberal Arts (ILA), American Studies, particularly African American Literature. Dissertation: "The Complex Process of Crafting Langston Hughes' Simple, 1942-1949." Degree awarded: May 16, 1988. Dissertation director, Peter Dowell, Department of English. Honors: Omicron Delta Kappa, National Leadership Society (1982). Danforth Graduate Fellow.

Summer Study, 1975, 1972, 1971. **Hampton University**, Hampton, Virginia. No degrees were conferred. I undertook a post-baccalaureate summer session in African and African American Studies, a summer of work on public relations writing and mass communications, and a summer of pre-college study in English and math.

B. A., 1975: with high honors in English, **Oberlin College**, Oberlin, Ohio. Specialization in African American literature. My honors thesis was entitled "Langston Hughes as a Proponent of the Black Aesthetic." Honors: Phi Beta Kappa (1975). National Achievement Scholarship. National Merit Finalist.

High School Distinctions: 1971, **Presidential Scholar** from Virginia. The first Black Valedictorian from Suffolk High School, Suffolk, Virginia.

Postdoctoral Enrichment

NYU Faculty Resource Network. Participant in the New York University, Faculty Resource Network Summer Session, "Rethinking American History: Locating an International and Global Context." June 7-11, 1999.

Participant in the two-year **Ford Diversity Project**, Spelman College, January 1994- March 1996. Lectures, readings, seminars to promote inclusion of curricular materials to reflect broader representations of diverse populations.

Participant in the **National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE) Summer Institute**, "Teaching African American Literature." Myrtle Beach, South Carolina. June 4-7, 1995.

Coca Cola Faculty Development Grant. Summer 1992. Funds enabled a one-month stay in New Haven, Connecticut, for an intensive study of primary source data in the James Weldon Johnson Collection, the Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale University. Other research trips were to examine microfilm at University of Georgia, Athens, Georgia.

Summer Scholar in Residence. Faculty Resource Network. New York University. June 1991.

One of three Spelman Representatives to the **Wye Faculty Seminar**, Summer 1990.

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY at SPELMAN COLLEGE

Professor of English, Spelman College, April 2000 to the Present. Teaching major courses.

Taught general education requirements; advised English majors and occasionally first year students who may become English majors. Previous ranks held at Spelman: Associate Professor of English, with tenure, April 1994-2000; Assistant Professor of English, August 1988-April 1994; Instructor of English, January 1987 – May 1988. As **Chairperson of the Department of English, August 2005 to July 2011**, I had full administrative responsibility for sixteen full-time faculty members plus two to five part-time faculty. Our department is the fourth largest at Spelman, graduating approximately 50 majors each year. We also house a Writing Minor and a Film and Visual Culture Minor. As **Associate Chairperson of English**, 1996-97, 1998-99, and 2002-2003, I assisted the chairperson as needed. My specific roles have included collecting and evaluating syllabi, assigning faculty for early registration advising of majors, helping to assess seniors' transcripts, and planning the annual English Majors Career Night in the fall. I also served as **Interim Chairperson of English, 1995-96**, during the sabbatical leave of Dr. Anne B. Warner.

Dean of Undergraduate Studies, January 2003 to December 2004. Primary duties were to oversee the curriculum, the academic integrity of students, academic support for students, and off-campus and post-graduate opportunities for students. Convene Curriculum Committee; Academic Review Board; Academic Integrity Appeals Board; co-convene Commencement Committee. Oversee domestic exchange program (with over 25 colleges). Meet with directors of Honors Program and Study Abroad Program. Hear grievances regarding academic matters. Plan Honors Convocation.

Graduate Course on Langston Hughes, University of Kansas, Lawrence. English 790, Multi-Cultural Institute. June 23 – 27, 2002. William Cook taught the other week of the course.

Minority Scholar in Residence, Grinnell College, Grinnell, Iowa, January 26, 1998 – February 13, 1998. I taught a three-week mini-course on Langston Hughes, gave two campus-wide lectures, visited classes, and generally participated in the academic environment at Grinnell.

Part-time Instructor of English, Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, Georgia, June 1985-June 1987. Taught composition and public speaking. Assistant for an intro. lit. class.

Programming Assistant to Dean Lelia Crawford, Assistant Dean of **Campus Life, Emory University. Aug. 1982-May 1983.** Worked with African American and international students, helping to plan events and helping to coordinate the “extended family” program, which linked Black staff with Black students in all divisions.

Part-time Instructor of English, Oglethorpe University, Atlanta, Georgia, September 1980-August 1981. Taught comp. and American Lit. Advised the Black Student organization.

Graduate Teaching Assistant in English, Emory University, College of Arts and Sciences, Atlanta, Georgia, Fall 1979. Taught one section of first year composition.

Lecturer in Black Studies Program, Oberlin College, Oberlin, Ohio, February 1976 – May 1977. I taught a course which I designed, and which has been continued since my departure: "Langston Hughes and the Black Aesthetic." This course remains cross-listed with the English Department.

Dormitory director for African Heritage House, Oberlin College, August 1975-June 1977. I was the housing administrator for 80 residents, the supervisor of two student assistants, and the program coordinator of guest speakers and cultural events related to the dorm and/or the Black Studies Program.

Public School Teacher, Suffolk [Virginia] City Schools. Summer 1982: 12th-grade English; Summer 1977: 11th-grade English; Feb.-June 1975 6th grade Reading and Social Science, East Suffolk Middle School. **Please note that I was certified to teach secondary school in 1975, having taken all required courses at Oberlin College.**

TEACHING AT SPELMAN COLLEGE

COURSES TAUGHT

All classes meet for two hours and thirty minutes of contact. All classes carry four credit hours.

- First Year English Composition (English 103)
- Honors First Year Composition (English 193)
- Advanced Exposition (the previous version of English 285)
- Early African American Literature (English 413 / English 342)
- Twentieth Century African American Literature (English 414/ English 343)
- Contemporary African American Literature (English 344)
- The Novels of Pearl Cleage and Tina McElroy Ansa (English 301C)
- Seminal Writers in the African American Tradition (English 375)
- Seminar: Langston Hughes (English 415 [previously] / 441A [currently])
- African Diaspora and the World, 111 and 112 (ADW 111, ADW 112)

ADVANCES IN PEDAGOGY: In my English 193, I used the computer classroom to engage the students in the Daedalus on-line dialogue opportunity. I used film in the course as a method of discourse, offering students a fundamental means of analyzing film as text.

INNOVATIONS: My syllabi for English 413, 414, and 415/ 441A, provide bibliographic resources that students report having used in graduate school.

I was one of the faculty members who helped to design English 375 (Seminal Writers in the African American Tradition).

Course Policies as printed with my syllabi have been imitated by some colleagues because of the thoroughness with which I address many issues of student expectations and grading.

Led my Advanced Composition Class in selecting winners for the 1996 Coca Cola Enterprises “Share the Dream” essay contest. Lori Lambert, Key Account Manager for Education.

Inspired by Spelman alumna Sylvia Baldwin, I offer students an opportunity to write a “Baldwin Provision” on out-of-class papers. A “Baldwin” revision is not guided by the professor, but if it is submitted before the professor grades an earlier submission, the “Baldwin” draft will be graded instead. Some colleagues have adopted this technique.

MENTORING ACTIVITIES : 1990: Faculty Sponsor for **Lori Robinson**, a winner of the first Student Essay Contest, sponsored by the Association for the Study of Afro-American Life and History. 1991 - 1993: Faculty Mentor for **Kimberley Yates**, Dana Foundation Preparing Minorities for Academic Careers. 1993 - 1995: Faculty Mentor for **Mendi Lewis**, UNCF- Mellon Fellowship Program. 2000-2003: Faculty Mentor for **Cherri Shelton**, UNCF-Mellon Fellowship Program. 2005-2007: Faculty Mentor for **Alexandrea Rich**, UNCF-Mellon Fellowship Program. Home campus Faculty Mentor for **DaChelle Chenault**, Summer Institute for Literary and Cultural Studies (SILKS), 2008. Faculty sponsor for **Jordone Branch**, winner of first prize for an undergraduate essay in the contest sponsored by the National Council on Black Studies, 2012.

SCHOLARLY and CREATIVE ACHIEVEMENT

BOOKS: All books are listed on the WorldCat Identities website:

<http://orlabs.oclc.org/identities/lccn-no93-1135>

Search for Donna Sullivan Harper. They show my books in over 4,500 libraries.

The Later Simple Stories (The Collected Works of Langston Hughes, Volume 8), edited and with an introduction by Donna Akiba Sullivan Harper. Columbia, Missouri: University of Missouri Press, 2002. ISBN: 0-8262-1409-6

<http://press.umssystem.edu/spring2002/hughes8.htm>

The Early Simple Stories (The Collected Works of Langston Hughes, Volume 7), edited and with an introduction by Donna Akiba Sullivan Harper. Columbia, Missouri: University of Missouri Press, 2002. ISBN: 0-8262-1370-7

<http://press.umssystem.edu/fall2001/hughes7.htm>

Langston Hughes Short Stories, edited by Akiba Sullivan Harper. Introduction by Arnold Rampersad. New York: Hill & Wang, 1996.

<http://us.macmillan.com/theshortstoriesoflangstonhughes>

ISBN: 978-0-8090-1603-7 or ISBN-10: 0-8090-1603-6

Not So Simple: The "Simple" Stories by Langston Hughes. Columbia, Missouri: University of Missouri Press, 1995. ISBN 0-8262-0980-7.

This remains the only book-length study of Hughes's Simple.

<http://press.umsystem.edu/product/Not-So-Simple,1508.aspx>

The Return of Simple, edited by Akiba Sullivan Harper. Introduction by Arnold Rampersad. New York: Hill & Wang, (division of Farrar, Straus, & Giroux), 1994.

<http://us.macmillan.com/thereturnofsimple>

ISBN: 978-0-8090-1582-5 or ISBN-10: 0-8090-1582-X

ARTICLES AND POEMS

“Spelman College.” Short contribution to *The Best Kind of College: An Insiders' Guide to America's Small Liberal Arts Colleges*. Ed. John E. Seery and Susan McWilliams. SUNY Press, 2015.

“Alice Walker's Essays, Speeches, and Conversations.” *Critical Insights: Alice Walker*. Ed. Nagueyalti Warren. Ipswich, MA: Salem Press, 2012.

http://salempress.com/store/samples/critical_insights/walker.htm

“Langston Hughes (Biographical Essay)” *Critical Essays on Langston Hughes*. Ed. R. Baxter Miller. Ipswich, MA: Salem Press, 2012.

http://salempress.com/store/samples/critical_insights/hughes.htm

“Madam Alberta K. Johnson and the Women of the ‘Simple’ Tales.” *Critical Insights: Langston Hughes*. Ed. R. Baxter Miller. Ipswich, MA: Salem Press, 2012.

http://salempress.com/store/samples/critical_insights/hughes.htm

“Only Children.” (Poem). *Our Common Sufferings: An Anthology of World Poets in Memoriam, 2008 Sichuan Earthquake*. Ed. Nie Zhenzhao and Luo Lianggong. Shanghai Foreign Language Education Press, 2008. 130-135. This poem was solicited for inclusion in this anthology, and the poem appears in both English and Chinese, and is presented on an accompanying audio CD.

“End of Deferment: Use of Dreams in Langston Hughes's Poetry of the 1960s.” *Foreign Literature Studies [China]* 20.2 (2008): 13-20. This is a written version of a paper delivered in 2007 in Wuhan, China.

“Nurturing Undergraduates towards Doctoral Study.” *ADE Bulletin [Association of Departments of English]* 140 (Fall 2006): 35-37.

Review of *Volume 11 [Collected Works of Langston Hughes]: Works for Children and Young Adults: Poetry, Fiction, and Other Writings* (University of Missouri Press, 2003), ed. Dianne Johnson. *The Journal of African American History*. 89.4 (2004): 371

Review of *The Political Plays of Langston Hughes*, ed. Susan Duffy (S. Illinois UP, 2000) and *Remember Me to Harlem*, ed. Emily Bernard (Vintage, 2001). *Resources for American Literary Study*.: 29 (2004) 396-398.

Review of *A Langston Hughes Encyclopedia* by Hans Ostrom. *African American Review* 37.1 (Spring, 2003): 162-165.

Review of *From My People: 400 Years of African American Folklore*, edited by Daryl C. Dance. *Richmond Free Press*. June 23-27, 2002.

“Langston’s Simple Genius.” *The Crisis*. 109.1 (January/February 2002): 32-35.

“Langston Hughes: The Vanguard (1902-1967).” 2001 Ford Freedom Award Monograph. Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History. Detroit, Michigan. 2001.

“Introduction.” *Simple’s Uncle Sam* by Langston Hughes. New York: Hill & Wang, 2000. Re-publication of Langston Hughes’s 1965 collection of Simple stories. Xi-xix. ISBN 0-8090-8681-6 (pbk). Get details by inserting information at <http://www.fsgbooks.com/searchnn.htm>

“Langston Hughes.” *The Columbia Companion to the Twentieth Century American Short Story*. Ed. Blanche Gelfant. New York: Columbia University Press, 2000. 300-305. ISBN 0-231-11098-7.

“Langston Hughes.” *Notable Black American Men*. Ed. Jessie Carney Smith. Detroit: Gale, 1999. 580-583. The article has been reprinted in *Black Heroes* (Detroit: Gale, 2001) and on the Gale Publishers web site: http://www.galegroup.com/free_resources/bhm/bio/hughes_1.htm

“Review of *Free to Dream: The Making of a Poet: Langston Hughes* by Audrey Osofsky.” *The Langston Hughes Review* 14.1-2 [Spring/Fall 1996]: 104.

“The Tragic Kingdom.” (Viewpoint article.) *Atlanta Journal–Constitution*. 2 July 1995. Editorial pages. This is a subjective essay which drew the ire of radio talk host Neal Boortz.

With Shirley A. R. Lewis, Ph. D. "Black English." *The Oxford Companion to Women's Writing in the United States*. New York: Oxford U P, 1994.

"Achieving Universality Through Simple Truths." A Revised Version of the Paper Presented at Lincoln University, March 28, 1992. *Langston Hughes: The Man, His Art, and His Continuing Influence*. C. James Trotman and Emery Wimbish eds. New York: Garland, 1995. 119-129.

"The Power of the *Cross' Poems*: Assertive Womanhood and the Church." A Revised version of the paper presented at the National Association for African-American Studies in

Petersburg, Virginia, on February 10, 1993. Ann Arbor, Michigan: University Microfilms Press, This article traces significant language and text in the unpublished works of poetry by Mary Alice Cross, a deceased school teacher from Suffolk, Virginia.

Review of R. Baxter Miller's *The Art and Imagination of Langston Hughes*. *American Literature*, March 1991.

Review of both volumes of Arnold Rampersad's *The Life of Langston Hughes*. *Obsidian II: Black Literature in Review*. 5.2 (Summer 1990): 148 - 152.

"Langston Hughes as Cultural Conservator: Women in the Life of a 'Negro Everyman.'" *The Langston Hughes Review* 7.2 (Fall 1988): 15-21.

"Views of Langston Hughes." Rev. of *Critical Essays on Langston Hughes* by Edward J. Mullen. *Phylon* 48 (Fall 1987): 246.

"The Apple of his Eye': Du Bois on Hughes." *The Langston Hughes Review* 5 (Fall 1986): 29-33.

"The Notes We've Been Needing." Rev. of *Langston Hughes and Gwendolyn Brooks: a reference guide* by R. Baxter Miller. *Callaloo* #16 (October 1982).

"I'm Through." (Poem.) *The Crisis*, December, 1976.

"Counterpoint: Black Love for Black Babies." (Essay.) *The Crisis*, March, 1976.

"Who Determines Who's to be Born?" (Essay.) *The Crisis*, December, 1973.

"Call Me Black." (Poem.) *The Crisis*, March, 1972.

BIBLIOGRAPHIC CITATIONS IN SCHOLARLY WORKS BY OTHERS

Bennett, Juda. "Multiple Passings and the Double Death of Langston Hughes." *Biography* 23.4 (Fall 2000): 670-693.

Bertschman, Don. "Jesse B. Simple and the Racial Mountain: A Bibliographic Essay." *The Langston Hughes Review* 13.2 (Winter-Summer, 1995): 29-44. My work as editor of *The Return of Simple* is noted on page 29. *Not So Simple* is recognized on page 30 as "the only book-length critical study of the Simple Tales." Pages 40-41 note my article, "Langston Hughes As Cultural Conservator," and includes a six-line block quotation. Pages 41-42 refer in four paragraphs to *Not So Simple*, and calls me "precisely the sort of scholar that Simple himself might appreciate: straight forward, insightful without being pedantic or jargonistic, and appreciative of the value of anecdote and humor" (41). My contributions are included in the bibliography on page 43. Mr. Bertschman was at the time of this publication a doctoral candidate in the Department of English at the University of Georgia.

- Call and Response: The Riverside Anthology of the African American Literary Tradition*. Ed. Patricia Liggins Hill, et. al. My work is mentioned in the bibliographical headnote on Langston Hughes. New York: Houghton Mifflin, 1998. 889.
- Chinitz, David E. *Which Sin to Bear? Authenticity & Compromise in Langston Hughes*. New York: Oxford U P, 2013. *Not So Simple* is mentioned once in the text, twice in the notes, and is listed in Works Cited.
- Cook, Ashley B. "Langston Hughes and the Many Faces of Laughter." [Cook is a graduate student in education.] www.belmont.edu/Humanities/literature/laughter.html. My work is listed in the bibliography.
- Dickson-Carr, Darryl. *African American Satire: The Sacredly Profane Novel*. Columbia, MO: U Missouri P, 2001. Xiv. 213.
- Gaiimo, Paul. "Ethnic outsiders: the hyper-ethnicized narrator in Langston Hughes and Fred L. Gardaphe." MELUS, Vol. 28, 2003
- Howard, Cari Coleman. "Truly Shakespeare: *Simply Heavenly*'s Contribution to Morality and Nonviolence." *The Langston Hughes Review* 16:1-2 (Fall/ Spring 1999-2001): 81-88. Spelman alumna developed a paper from my Langston Hughes Seminar into this article, in which she cites Not So Simple. See page 82.
- Hubbard, Dolan. "Langston Hughes: A Bibliographic Essay." A Historical Guide to Langston Hughes. Ed. Steven C. Tracy. New York: Oxford UP, 2004.197-234.
- Kim, Daniel Won-gu. "We, Too, Rise with You": Recovering Langston Hughes's African Turn 1954-1960 in An African Treasury, the Chicago Defender, and Black Orpheus." *African American Review* 41.3 (2007): 419-437. While eager to use uncollected Simple stories presented in *The Return of Simple*, Kim criticizes an inadequate focus upon Hughes's politically global views in the later years of the column.
- Kutzinski, Vera M. *The Worlds of Langston Hughes: Modernism and Translation in the Americas*. Ithaca, New York: Cornell U P, 2012.
- Miller, R. Baxter. "Introduction to the Paperback Edition." *The Art and Imagination of Langston Hughes*. Lexington: U P Kentucky, 2006. x-xix.
- Miller, W. Jason. *Langston Hughes and American Lynching Culture*. Gainesville, Florida: U P Florida, 2011.
- Mikolyzk, Thomas A. *Langston Hughes: A Bio-Bibliography*. New York: Greenwood Press, 1990. (Entry # D0182, page 181.)
- Nelson, Emmanuel Sampath. "Langston Hughes: 1902-1967." *African American Authors, 1745-1945: bio-bibliographical critical sourcebook*. Ed. Emmanuel S. Nelson. Greenwood P., 2000. 249-258

The Norton Anthology of African American Literature, Second Edition. Ed. Henry Louis Gates, Jr. and Nellie Y. McKay, et. al. New York: Norton, 2004. In the “Selected Bibliographies,” *Not So Simple* is listed as one of many important resources on Hughes (page 2724).

Ostrom, Hans. *A Langston Hughes Encyclopedia*. Westport, Connecticut: Greenwood, 2002. *Not So Simple*, *The Return of Simple*, and *Langston Hughes: Short Stories* are all referenced in this volume. The “Preface” states “Akiba Sullivan Harper’s work on Hughes’s short fiction has been nothing short of heroic” (xi). See also “Simple [Jesse B.] Stories” 356-358;

Ostrom, Hans. *Langston Hughes: A Study of the Short Fiction*. New York: Twayne, 1993. (Selected Bibliography, pp. 116 (“The Apple of His Eye”) and 117 (Dissertation from *Dissertation Abstracts Index* 49 [December 1988]: 1456A.)

Riley, Sam G. “Langston Hughes’s Jesse B. Semple Columns As Literary Journalism.” *American Periodicals* 10 (2000): 63-78. Page 69 mentions *The Return of Simple* and *Not So Simple* and the article makes generous use of stories collected in *The Return of Simple*.

Scott, Jonathan. *Socialist Joy in the Writing of Langston Hughes*. Columbia, MO: U Missouri P, 2006. Numerous pages cite *Not So Simple*.

Tsai, Robert L. “‘Simple’ Takes on the Supreme Court.” *5 Alabama Civil Rights & Civil Liberties Law Review* (2013). 2-36. Available through SSRN. American University Law Professor discusses the Simple stories as a medium for appreciating popular understandings of U.S. laws and Constitution. *Not So Simple* is cited twice.

BOOK REVIEWS OF MY BOOK PROJECTS

Berry, Faith. Review of *The Return of Simple*. *African American Review* 30.3: 499-500. Faith Berry is the author of a major biography of Langston Hughes.

Cochran, David. “A complex interpretation of Simple, Harlem’s Everyman.” (Review of *Not So Simple*.) *The Columbia Missourian*. 19 November 1995.

Donald, David Herbert. “Good Race Men: The black characters in Langston Hughes’s stories were not the sort that readers were used to.” [*Short Stories.*] *New York Times Book Review*. 1 September 1996: 8-9.

Fordham, Damon. Review of *Short Stories*. *The Coastal Times*, Charleston, South Carolina. Date not available 1996.

Gibson, Donald B. Review of *Not So Simple*. *African American Review* 31.3: 529 – 531. Donald Gibson is a professor of English at Rutgers University and often collaborates with New York University for the Faculty Resource Network.

Grauer, Neil A. "Collection takes us back to Simple times." (Review of *The Return of Simple*.) *The Plain Dealer* [Cleveland, OH], 24 August 1994.

Grooms, Anthony. "'Return of Simple': He's not so simple." (Review of *The Return of Simple*.) *Richmond [Va.] Free Press*. October 6-8, 1994: 9. Tony Grooms is a creative writer who once taught at Spelman. He now teaches at Kennesaw State University.

Hayden, Chris. "Collection of Hughes Stories Depicts Human Folly." *St. Louis Post Dispatch*. 29 September 1996.

Holloway, Janice Gordon. "Jesse B. Semple is not so simple after all: Akiba S. Harper makes the 'return of Simple' meaningful." *The New Journal and Guide* [Norfolk, VA], 17 August – 23 August 1994:10.

Horvath, Brooke. "Langston Hughes' 'wonder about world.'" [*Short Stories*.] *The* [Cleveland, OH] *Plain Dealer*. 15 September 1996: 11-J.

Kirby, David. Review of *Not So Simple*. *Library Journal*. 1 April 1995.

McCluskey, J. Review of *Not So Simple*. *American Literature*. 68.2. (1996): 478.

Miller, R. Baxter. Review of *Not So Simple*. *The Langston Hughes Review* 15.1 (Spring 1997): 65-67.

Mills, Jeri. "Personally Yours" [regular column containing a Review of *The Return of Simple*]. *The Champion* [Decatur, GA], 16 November – 22 November 1994: 6.

O'Meally, Robert G. "A Man of the People." [Review of *The Return of Simple*.] *Newsday*, 31 July 1994.

Owens, Darryl E. "Hughes A Masterful Observer of Humanity." [Review of *Langston Hughes: Short Stories*.] *Orlando [Florida] Sentinel*, 26 January 1997.
http://articles.orlandosentinel.com/1997-01-26/entertainment/9701231045_1_langston-hughes-gumption-short-stories

"*The Return of Simple*." [Brief review.] *Kirkus Reviews*. 1 May 1994.

"*The Return of Simple*." *Publishers Weekly*. 9 May 1994: 62.

Ross, Michael E. Review of *Not So Simple*. *The New York Times Book Review*. 26 November 1995:18.

Ruehlmann, Bill. "The Simple appeal of a complex artist." *The [Norfolk] Virginian-Pilot and Ledger-Star*. 21 August 1994: J3.

Simms-Burton, Michele L. "Reviews." *Studies in Short Fiction* 34.3 (Summer 1997): 420. Rpt. EBSCO.

Smethurst, James. "Uncertain boundaries: The multiple voices and Contradictions of identity in Langston Hughes' short stories." *Chicago Tribune*, 22 September 1996, Sec. 14: 5, 11. James Smethurst is Assistant Professor of English at the University of North Florida in Jacksonville, Florida.

Smith, Patricia. "Collected Works: Langston Hughes, in many Voices." [Combined review, including *The Return of Simple*.] *The Boston Globe* 4 December 1994.

Sundquist, Eric J. "Who Was Langston Hughes?" *Commentary*, December, 1996: 55-59. Eric Sundquist is Professor of English and Dean of Arts & Sciences at Northwestern University in Evanston, Illinois.

Warren, Tim. "Hughes columns elegantly 'Simple.'" *The Baltimore Sun*. 26 September 1994: 6D.

Wood, Patricia Cockrell. "*Not So Simple*: 'Reading with Burning Cheeks.'" *Chattahoochee Review*. August 1996: 134-139.

Zappe, Jason. "Collection highlights Langston Hughes' talent." [*Short Stories*.] Copley News Service. 4 September 1996.

BRIEF MENTIONS OF MY BOOK PROJECTS

American Literature. [*Short Stories*, paper] March 1998: 222.

American Literature. [*Collected Works*, Vol. 8] March 2003.

Book World. [*Short Stories*.] 8 September 1996.

Brown, Dona. [*Short Stories*.] *Entertainment Weekly*. 13 September 1996.

Choice 33.3: November 1995.

Chronicle of Higher Education. [*Not So Simple*] 9 June 1995. A17.

"Emerge's Recommended Reading." [*Return of Simple*] *Emerge*, October 1994: 70.

Hopkinson, Natalie. "Return of Simple Insights: Langston Hughes Character Enjoys New Popularity." *The Washington Post*, 7 June 2001: PG22. Online: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/articles/A30081-2001Jun6.html>

"Hughes' Simple tales to be discussed." *New Journal and Guide*_[Norfolk, VA] 13 March – 19 March 1996: 3.

National Black Review. [*Short Stories*]. Holiday, 1996: 104.

Reference and Research Book News. 18 July 1995.

Tallmer, Jerry. "A Renaissance Deferred." *New York Newsday*. 1 February 1995: B2.

RECOGNITION IN THE PRESS, BROADCAST MEDIA, AND WWW

aaup.pupress.princeton.edu offers a link to the University of Missouri Press page at a search of "Donna Harper."

Agnew, Tracy. "Jordan School Plans Reunion." *Suffolk News Herald*. August 11, 2009. [With photo.] <http://www.suffolknewsherald.com/news/2009/aug/11/jordan-school-plans-reunion/>

Cobb, Erika. "Spelman College professor visits Lincoln University: Langston Hughes scholar speaks at Convocation and hosts book signing." [With photo.] *The Lincolnian*. [Lincoln University, Pennsylvania.] February 21, 1997: 1.

"Editor of 'The Return' to speak Saturday At the Va. Museum." *Richmond [Va.] Free Press*. October 6-8, 1994: 9. This article ran beside a book review by Tony Grooms.

"Good Day Atlanta." Interview on the air, featuring *The Return of Simple*. 5 August 1994. Atlanta television Channel 5.

"Good Day Atlanta." Interview on the air, featuring *Not So Simple*. 16 August 1995. Atlanta television Channel 5.

Lewis, Charity. "'Just' My Baby Daddy." [With photo.] *Spelman Spotlight*. 5 May 1997: 4.

"Paine College presents 'Trends in Contemporary Literature: A Glimpse at Currents in African American Literature.'" *Augusta [Georgia] Focus*. 22 October 1998. 2-B.

Panton, Marilyn. "Writer returns home: Donna Harper speaks about Langston Hughes." *Suffolk [Virginia] News-Herald*. Saturday, July 22, 1995: 1, 2.

Reinhard, Sarah. "Langston Hughes Expert Visits Campus." [With photo.] *The Scarlett & Black* [Grinnell College, Grinnell, Iowa], Friday, February 13, 1998: 2.

"The Scholar-in-Residence Program." *Faculty Resource Network Newsletter*. Winter 1996: 8.

"A Sunday to Celebrate Black History Month." *Atlanta Journal-Constitution*. 5 February 2001. D-1 [with photo].

"Teacher Feature." *Put It in Writing*. Dept. of English, Spelman College. 26 February 1997.

Wall, Evelyn. "Links join together to honor charter members." [With photo.] *Suffolk [Virginia]*

News-Herald. Sunday, April 26, 1998: 7.

Wright, Valerie E. "Spirited Exchanges Characterize Duke, HBCUs Graduate School Symposium." *Black Issues in Higher Education*. 7 October 1993. 12, 14 (photo), 15.

www.yahoo.com offers over twenty web links at the keyword search of my name. (Some of the links do not seem to relate to me, but many of them cross-reference amazon.com, the on-line book store, or the University of Missouri Press web site.)

RECENT INVITED ACADEMIC PRESENTATIONS

"The End of Deferment: Langston Hughes's Poems of the 1960s." International Symposium on Langston Hughes. Wuhan, China. July 22, 2007.

Chaired Panels on Langston Hughes for Modern Language Association. December 30, 2004 and December 30, 2006. Both in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

"*FIRE!!* Magazine: Shaking the Establishment." A paper within the three-day symposium, "The Cultural Politics of the Harlem Renaissance." Paine College. Augusta, Georgia. November 17, 2004.

"Overview of the Life and Works of Langston Hughes." Panel to open an exhibition of Langston Hughes's papers at Emory University, Special Collections. April 14, 2004.

"Problem-Solving Leaders," Honors Day Convocation Address, Bennett College, Greensboro, NC. February 19, 2004.

"Langston Hughes: Man of the People, Citizen of the World." Villanova University, PA. September 30, 2003.

"Langston Hughes: the Man and his Works." Xavier University, New Orleans, Louisiana. June 6, 2003.

Honors Convocation Address for Spelman College. February 21, 2003.

McArthur Lecture for Johnson C. Smith University, Charlotte, North Carolina. February 10-11, 2003.

"Lessons from Victories and Lesions of the New Negro Movement." Paine College, Augusta, Georgia. October 30, 2002.

"The Letters of Langston Hughes and Arna Bontemps: 'for posterity's delectation and enlightenment.'" The Langston Hughes Centennial Conference, Lincoln University, Pennsylvania. October 19, 2002. For photos, see <http://www.lincoln.edu/library/cphotos.html>

- “The Significance of Langston Hughes to the American Poetic Canon.” Dream Explosion: The 5th Annual Langston Hughes Black Poetry Festival. Webster University, April 22, 2002. St. Louis, Missouri.
- “Neglected Dimensions in the Life and Works of Langston Hughes” and “Crafting the Simple Stories” for the Clark Atlanta University Writers’ Conference, honoring Langston Hughes. April 9, 2002, Atlanta, Georgia.
- “Speaking for All of Us: Examinations of Class and Status in the Works of Langston Hughes” for the Langston Hughes Centennial Program in Cleveland, Ohio, April 6, 2002. Hosted by the Western Reserve Historical Society, the Cleveland Branch of the NAACP and Cleveland State University.
- “Neglected Dimensions in the Life and Works of Langston Hughes.” Clemson University, Clemson, SC. 11 Mar. 2002.
- Teachers’ Workshop on Langston Hughes, Langston Hughes Symposium, February 9, 2002. University of Kansas, Lawrence. Conducted workshop with William Cook of Dartmouth University <http://www.kuce.org/hughes/workshop.html>
- “Plain and Simple People.” Panel participant as part of the Langston Hughes Centennial Symposium. February 8, 2002 in Lawrence, Kansas, at the University of Kansas. <http://www.kuce.org/hughes/harper.html>
- “The Meaning of ‘Home’ in the Works of Langston Hughes.” A plenary address for the Langston Hughes Centennial Conference, Missouri Southern State College, Joplin, Missouri. February 2, 2002.
- “Lifting as we Rock Climb.” Phi Beta Kappa Induction Lecture. Spelman College. April 28, 2001. Atlanta, Georgia.
- “Langston Hughes and His Short Fiction.” Charles W. Chesnutt/ Langston Hughes Lecture, sponsored by the African American Archives of the Western Reserve Historical Society and the Cleveland Branch of the NAACP. Cleveland, Ohio. June 21, 2000.
- “Langston Hughes and the State of African American Poetry Today.” Workshop speaker for the National Federation of State Poetry Societies. 19 June 1999. Atlanta, Georgia.
- “Who’s Driving This Vehicle? An Evaluation of the Roles of Publicity and the Public as they Impact Contemporary African American Literature.” Conference: “Trends in Contemporary Literature.” Paine College, Augusta, Georgia, October 29, 1998.
- “Langston Hughes: The Overlooked Aspects of his Life and Works.” Black History Month lecture. Grinnell College, Grinnell, Iowa. February 5, 1998.

OTHER INVITED ACADEMIC PRESENTATIONS

“Living and Learning from Langston Hughes.” Sigma Tau Delta (Upsilon Nu Chapter). Morehouse College. Atlanta, GA. 13 February 1997. Sigma Tau Delta is the English honor society.

“Learning from Langston Hughes: Educational Goals and Methods Outlined in the Works of Langston Hughes.” Lincoln University, Pennsylvania. 5 February 1997. This visit also included a book signing, reception, and a lecture for a class.

“The Jesse B. Semple Stories by Langston Hughes.” The University of Georgia. Sponsored by the Department of English and the African American Studies Institute. Athens, GA. 22 May 1996.

"The Social and Political Fabric of the Harlem Renaissance." Keynote address for the first night of "Harlem Renaissance," a two-day symposium sponsored by Humanities West. San Francisco, California, February 9, 1996. Other panelists with whom I shared meals and conversations included Barbara Christian (noted literary critic, University of California, Berkeley, moderator of my session) and Richard Powell (Art Historian, Duke University). See: www.best.com/~fearless/Harlem.html

"Social and Psychological Lessons from Langston Hughes's Simple." Langston Hughes Symposium sponsored by the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, Richmond, Virginia. October 8, 1994.

"Social and Psychological Lessons from Langston Hughes's Simple." Black History Month address sponsored by the Department of English and the Black Collegiate Organization at the Missouri Southern State College, and by the Joplin, Missouri, NAACP. Joplin, Missouri. February 25, 1994. This visit also included a visit to an African American literature class, and after my keynote address, I received a key to the city of Joplin, Missouri, the birthplace of Langston Hughes.

"Langston Hughes' Jesse B. Semple and Women." "Class, Race & Poetry: A Symposium in Honor of Langston Hughes." Sponsored by the Black Studies Program, University of Missouri-Columbia. February 1, 1994.

OTHER PRESENTATIONS IN PROFESSIONAL SETTINGS (Conferences, etc.)

Discussant in Panel, “Spelman Women/ Black Lives.” Association for the Study of African American Life and History (ASALH) Centennial Convention, 25 September 2015, Atlanta, Georgia.

Chaired session #70, “Louisiana Writers: Alice Dunbar Nelson, Ernest J. Gaines, and Brenda Marie Osbey.” College Language Association (CLA), 28 March 2014, New Orleans, Louisiana.

Chaired session #168, "The Cultural History of Langston Hughes: An Omni-Media Investigation," South Atlantic Modern Language Association (SAMLTA), 9 November 2013, Atlanta, Georgia.

Chaired session #9, College Language Association (CLA), 11 April 2013. Lexington, Kentucky.

"Using the Archival *Chicago Defender* to Contextualize the 'Simple' Stories by Langston Hughes." Modern Language Association (MLA) Session #590, 5 January 2013. Boston, Mass.

"African American Studies in the Posttrace Era." Roundtable. Modern Language Association (MLA). Session #72. 6 January 2011. Los Angeles, California.

"A Global Perspective of Jesse B. Semple: Humor 'From Here to Yonder.'" MLA. Session #272. 7 January 2011. Los Angeles, California.

"Turning Jazz Into Literature: Langston Hughes in Three Genres." Presented at Hacettepe University, Ankara, Turkey (March 2, 2010), and at Bahcesehir University, Istanbul, Turkey (March 8, 2010), as part of a visit to explore a Spelman summer program in Turkey.

"Leadership in the Academy: Advocacy for Academic Excellence." Roundtable. College Language Association. April 24, 2003. Washington, D.C.

"What Happens to a Dream Come True? Considerations of Langston Hughes's Dream Images." Association for the Study of African American Life and History (ASALH). Orlando, Florida. October 5, 2002. I also assembled this entire panel, "Hughes: Reconsidered." This panel was also presented in the College Language Association (CLA) conference, April 25, 2003, in Washington, D.C. (an entirely different audience).

"Did the Harlem Renaissance Fail: Literary Fact or Critical Myth?" Roundtable participant. Modernist Studies Association. October 14, 2001. Rice University. Houston, Texas.

"Jesse B. Semple as a Scholarly Pursuit." Panelist for the Summer Minority Undergraduate Research Assistant Program, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. July 21, 2001.

"Simple Routes to the People: Jesse B. Semple, 1962-1965." Panelist. College Language Association (CLA). New Orleans, Louisiana. April 20, 2001.

"Southern People and Places in the Poetry of Sterling Brown." Association for the Study of Afro-American Life and History (ASALH), Miami, Florida. October 3, 1998.

"His Soul Has Grown Deep Like the Women: Women in the Works of Langston Hughes." Old Dominion University, Norfolk, Virginia. Lecture sponsored by the Women's Studies Department and the Institute for the Study of Minority Issues. April 2, 1998.

"Simply Funny: Targeting Simple's Targets." Zora Neale Hurston Society, Thirteenth

Anniversary National Conference. June 6, 1997. Baltimore, Maryland.

Chaired session at College Language Association, April 1997. Tallahassee, Florida.

"The (Occasionally) Radical Sonnet Form of Claude McKay." College Language Association. Winston-Salem, North Carolina. April 11, 1996.

"Levels of Diction in the Simple Stories." Modern Language Association. Chicago, Illinois. December 28, 1995. Arnold Rampersad chaired this session.

"How Langston Hughes Took 'Simple' from the Chicago Defender to New York Publishers: Questions About Audience and Purpose in Fiction." College Language Association. Baton Rouge, Louisiana. 21 April 1995.

Convener, Round table discussion of African American Experiences in Graduate English Programs. College Language Association. Baton Rouge, Louisiana. 20 April 1995.

"Langston Hughes in Prose." Invited lecture at Georgia State University. Sponsored by the Department of English and The African American Studies Department. 2 March 1995.

Convener and chair: African Americans and the Ph.D.: Filling the Pipelines. Association for the Study of Afro-American Life and History. Friday, October 14, 1994. Atlanta, Georgia.

Commentator for Panel, "Lifting the Veil on African American Culture, Identity, and Community." **ASALH**. October 22, 1993. Baltimore, Maryland.

Leader of book discussion on *The Women of Brewster Place* by Gloria Naylor. American Literature Association. Baltimore, Maryland. May 30, 1993.

"The Power of the *Cross' Poems*: Assertive Womanhood and the Church." National Association for African-American Studies. Petersburg, Virginia. February 10, 1993.

"Achieving Universality Through Simple Truths." Invited paper. Special Conference, "Langston Hughes: The Man and the Writer." Lincoln University, Pennsylvania. March 28, 1992.

Chair and convener, "Sunrise Harvest: Young Scholars Examine Langston Hughes," sponsored by the Langston Hughes Society. Association for the Study of Afro-American Life and History (**ASALH**). Washington, D.C. November 1, 1991.

"The Impact of the *Chicago Defender* on Langston Hughes's Simple Stories, 1942-1949." **ASALH**. Chicago. October 26, 1990.

"Simple and His Women: 'Peace, Peace, But There Is No Peace.'" Modern Language Association. Washington, D. C. December 30, 1989.

Reactor for Keynote Address by Dr. Charles H. Long, opening plenary for "Re-Thinking the Humanities for the 21st Century." Atlanta University Center, Robert Woodruff Library. October 12, 1989.

"Explorations of *Equiano's Travels*." **ASALH**. Dayton, Ohio. October 6, 1989.

"From Hip to Highfalutin: Revisions in the Language of Simple's Foil, 1943-1949." International Interdisciplinary Conference on Langston Hughes. City College of City University, New York City. November 18, 1988.

Moderator for "The Culturebearers: A Woman's Place in Cultural Organizations and Artistic Expressions of the Civil Rights Movement." Women in the Civil Rights Movement: Trailblazers and Torchbearers, 1941-1965." Atlanta, Georgia. October 14, 1988.

"Finding All of Semple: Relocating the Characters in the 1940's Black Press." The Association for the Study of Afro-American Life and History. Cherry Hill, New Jersey. October 8, 1988.

Film commentator for the premiere of *Langston Hughes: the Dream Keeper*. High Museum of Art, Atlanta. Sponsored by the Atlanta African Film Society, December 6, 1986.

"The Apple of His Eye': Du Bois' Opinion of Hughes." **CLA**. Norfolk, Virginia. April 17, 1986. On this panel were Faith Berry and Arnold Rampersad.

"The Origins and Development of Simple's Foil." Middle Atlantic Writers' Association. Baltimore, Maryland. October, 1985.

"Depictions of Interracial Family Life in *Ebony* and *Crisis*." Conference on Approaches to Interdisciplinary Study. ILA, Emory. November 8, 1979.

INVITED PUBLIC LECTURES AND LEADERSHIP FOR SOCIAL ORGANIZATIONS AND OTHER GROUPS NOT PRIMARILY ACADEMIC

Guest presenter on Langston Hughes's Simple Stories for the Inquirers, a book club, Atlanta, Georgia, Wednesday, 3 April 2013.

Host for annual reading of *God's Trombones*, a fundraiser for the Samuel Johnson Scholarship Organization (SSSP), Saturday, 2 February 2013.

Panelist on the topic "Valuing Education," focus: Spelman College, for MoSoLit Club, Atlanta, Georgia, Friday, 29 April 2011.

Lecture on Langston Hughes for a high school class, Benjamin Banneker High School, Atlanta, Georgia. Monday, 7 March 2011.

Mistress of Ceremonies for Black History Program, "God's Trombones." Hillside Presbyterian Church, Saturday, 5 February 2011.

Reflections on Growing Up in First Baptist Church. Homecoming. November 8, 2009.
Remarks after the banquet on Homecoming Sunday for First Baptist Church, 112 Mahan Street, Suffolk, Virginia.

Reflections on attending the Jordan Kindergarten. Jordan School Reunion. Suffolk, Virginia. September 5, 2009. Keynote address for the banquet in this reunion.

“Langston Hughes: ‘Without Fear or Shame’ in the Harlem Renaissance.” The Learning Center at Senior Citizens, Inc. Savannah, Georgia. August 7, 2008.

Facilitated an interview and question & answer session with actor/singer Leon as part of the National Black Arts Festival, Atlanta, Georgia. July 21, 2006.

Facilitated an interview and question and answer session with Howard Dodson, Director of the Schomburg Research Center in New York as part of the National Black Arts Festival, Atlanta, Georgia, July 2005.

“Langston Hughes.” The Langston Hughes Poetry Workshop. West End Performing Arts Center. Atlanta, GA. June 9, 2004.

“Home in the Works of Langston Hughes.” Annual Langston Hughes Festival. Joplin, Missouri. Sponsored by the Joplin NAACP and Missouri Southern State University. February 27, 2004.

“Langston Hughes and his Simple Stories.” Public lecture sponsored by the Chattahoochee Review. Georgia Perimeter College (Dunwoody Campus), Dunwoody, GA. February 16, 2004.

“Singing the Song of the Unsung.” Guest lecture at the Eighth Annual Annie L. McPheeters Lecture and Award Program. Auburn Avenue Research Library on African American Culture and History. May 4, 2003. Atlanta, Georgia.

“Model Contentment.” Morning Worship Message, sponsored by the “55-Plus Support Group.” First Congregational Church, UCC. May 4, 2003. Atlanta, Georgia.

“Medicine (Wo)Men:” Black Art and Activism. Roundtable. Also presented a poetic tribute to Calvin Hernton in the evening program. Oberlin College African American Studies 30th Anniversary Celebration. April 26, 2003. Oberlin, Ohio.

“The Gift of Women Who Speak.” Women’s Day Message. Hillside Presbyterian Church. March 9, 2003. Decatur, Georgia.

“Emotional Management/ Stress-Free Living: Killing the Superwoman Myth.” Women’s Conference: “It’s Still About Me—Empowering the Total Woman: Body, Soul, and Spirit.” Cincinnati, Ohio. September 21-22, 2001. Sponsored by the Cincinnati Bible Way Church, Inc.

Lecture on Langston Hughes for the Soul Source Book Store, Atlanta, Georgia. March 29, 2001.

Reflections on the significance of the contributions of Langston Hughes. Banquet remarks. Ford Freedom Awards. Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History. Detroit, Michigan. February 22, 2001.

“Paving the Way for the New Millennium Poet.” Georgia Poetry Society. January 20, 2001. Smyrna, Georgia.

“Challenges for Black Women in Leadership.” Luncheon address for the Clayton County Section of the National Council of Negro Women. September 16, 2000. Clayton County, Georgia.

Multi-Media presentation on the life and works of Langston Hughes. Quality First Elder Hostel. Spelman College. Atlanta, GA. July 20, 1998. This was a second invitation to share this Lecture at the Elder Hostel. Coordinator was Dr. Pauline Drake.

“Women of Excellence: Past, Present, and Future.” Luncheon speaker for the LINKS, Inc., Suffolk, Va. April 4, 1998.

“Business Women in the Short Fiction of Langston Hughes.” Lecture for the American Business Women’s Association. College Park, Georgia. 24 February 1998.

“Tea with Z: A Lecture on Zora Neale Hurston.” Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. Atlanta, Georgia. 22 February 1998.

Guest to lead a discussion of The Return of Simple. Supper Club. Oakhurst Presbyterian Church. Circa October 14, 1997. Decatur, Georgia.

“Why I Love My Work.” Rotary Club of South DeKalb. Decatur, Georgia. 17 July 1997.

Multi-Media presentation on the life and works of Langston Hughes. Quality First Elder Hostel. Spelman College. Atlanta, GA. July 17, 1997.

"Food for Thought: Your Ten P's." Invited Graduation Address. Browns Mill Elementary School. DeKalb County, Georgia. June 6, 1996.

“Women Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow.” Keynote address for Women’s Day. St. Timothy’s Episcopal Church. Decatur, GA. 5 May 1996.

"Zora Neale Hurston: An Introduction." Invited lecture for Tea With "Z" sponsored by the Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Sunday, February 25, 1996. Atlanta, Georgia.

“Langston Hughes’s Writings.” A lecture and discussion for ACTION, East Suffolk Complex. Suffolk, Virginia. 18 July 1995.

"Images of Young People in the Poetry and Fiction of Langston Hughes." Presentation for Black History Month, Arts Clayton. Clayton County Headquarters Library, 23 February 1995.

"Langston Hughes, A People-Person." Presentation for Black History Month. Social Security Administration, Department of Health and Human Services, Tucker, Georgia. 23 February 1995.

Reader, "Foreword: Who Is Simple?" I was one of several on stage for a birthday presentation of poems and short fiction by Langston Hughes. Sponsored by Hill & Wang. Held in the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, Harlem, New York. February 1, 1995.

<http://www.nypl.org/research/sc/sce/1995.htm>

- "Getting Down to Business." Lecture for the dinner meeting of the Snapfinger Woods Chapter of the American Business Women's Association. Decatur, GA. November 17, 1994. Audience included approximately one hundred members of the organization.
- "Social and Psychological Lessons from Langston Hughes's Simple." Peachtree Branch, Atlanta Fulton County Library. December 3, 1994. My lecture was one in a series sponsored by the library. The audience was very small, maybe twenty people.
- "How Spelman College Educates Black Women for the Future." Invited Address to "The Inquirer's Club," Atlanta, Georgia. January 5, 1994.
- "Langston Hughes." Invited lecture and reading to the combined fifth grade at Peyton Forest Elementary School, S.W. Atlanta, September 30, 1993.
- "Jesse B. Semple' Turns 50: An Historical Perspective." The first in the Black History Lecture Series for 1993, sponsored by the Department of History, Hampton University, Hampton, Virginia. February 11, 1993.
- "Sonnets in African American Literature" and "Poetry by Langston Hughes." Lectures to several English classes. Avondale High School, Decatur, Georgia. Feb. 24, 1993.
- "Voices from the Harlem Renaissance: A Comparison of Poems by McKay, Cullen, and Hughes." Invited lecture to the entire student body. Auburn [Alabama] High School, Feb. 17, 1993.
- "The 'Madam' Poems and other Women in the Works of Langston Hughes. The DeKalb [Georgia] Chapter, Association of American Business Women. Sept. 24, 1992.
- "The Simple Path to Success." Avondale High School. Motivational visits to classes. Feb. 24, 1992.
- "Langston Hughes." Mr. David Perkins' 4th grade class. Glen Haven Elementary School, Decatur, Georgia. Feb. 17, 1992.
- "Food for Thought: Your Ten P's." Invited Graduation Address. Public School #219. June 24, 1991. Brooklyn, New York.
- "The Poetry of Langston Hughes." Invited Keynote Address. Georgia State Poetry Society. April 20, 1991. Spelman College, Atlanta, Georgia.
- "Langston Hughes and the Harlem Renaissance." Visits to several classes. Creekside High School. March 13, 1991. Union City, Georgia.
- "Literature and Life: Langston Hughes' Works as Illustrations of African-American Life and History." Invited Address. February 7, 1991. A Celebration of the African-American Experience. College of Liberal Arts. Clemson University. Clemson, South Carolina.

"The Humor and Sensitivity of Langston Hughes." Invited Address. DeKalb Community College, South Campus. May 3, 1990. Decatur, Georgia.

"Langston Hughes." Lena J. Campbell Elementary School. May 16, 1990. Atlanta, Georgia.

"Teaching in the Electronic Classroom." Bush Faculty Development Workshop. May 1989.

CONSULTATIONS

Consultant for the feature length documentary film project, "Origin of the Dream." The film illuminates the unexplored intersections of Langston Hughes and Martin Luther King, Jr. Director/ Producer Rebecca Cerese. Producer/Writer Jason Miller. I was also interviewed as a participant in the documentary. 2014-present.

Outside Reviewer for Tenure and Promotion Considerations. Oberlin College. North Carolina State University, University of Mississippi. University of Missouri. University of Southern Illinois. University of Massachusetts, Amherst. 2001-present.

Consultant, The National Faculty. Conducted several two-day workshops and two two-week summer institutes on African American Literature for teachers from Mississippi, Louisiana, and Arkansas as part of the Delta Teachers Academy, 1995-1998.

Member of the Planning Committee of "Language and Performance in the Poetry and Drama of Langston Hughes," a three-day symposium planned for 1996 at Lincoln University, Pennsylvania. Planning activities funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities. [The event was not funded.]

Panelist to review applications to the NEH, Library and Public Programs division, April 1994 and 1996.

Consultant, Hearst Program Preparing Minorities for Academic Careers. Dillard University, New Orleans, Louisiana. September 1991 and October 1992.

Consultant, NEH summer seminar on "Black Africa and the American Experience." Wofford College. Spartanburg, South Carolina. June 23-24, 1992.

Consultant, NEH mastergrant concerning African-American literature for secondary English teachers, Auburn, Alabama, Public Schools. Feb. 28-29, 1992.

SERVICE at SPELMAN COLLEGE

President of the Epsilon of Georgia Chapter of Phi Beta Kappa, Spelman's chapter, August 2013-July 2015.

Co-chaired the Campus Campaign for Spelman College with Germaine McAuley, fall 2014. The campaign generated support of approximately 172 faculty and staff and raised nearly \$54,000.

Participated on a committee of full professors to evaluate prospective new hire Dr. Moss for consideration as a full professor at the time of her hire. Spring 2014.

Faculty Marshal for both Baccalaureate and Commencement exercises, 18-19 May 2013. Platform Marshal for Baccalaureate 2014 and Faculty Marshal for Commencement 2014.

Chaired the “Members in Course” committee for our chapter of Phi Beta Kappa to solicit information about all eligible juniors and seniors and to lead the selection process by Phi Beta Kappa members. Spring 2013. Spring 2014.

Presented to Spel-Bound students information about the English major and the various minors housed in the English Department. 21 April 2013. 27 April 2014.

Chaired a committee of full professors to evaluate the case of Lawrence Schenbeck, who was being considered for promotion to full professor. Spring 2013.

Headed host committee to welcome Dr. Diana Taylor as a Phi Beta Kappa Visiting Scholar, Tuesday – Thursday, 5-7 February 2013. Visit included a campus-wide lecture, two visits to classrooms, and opportunities for informal conversations with students and faculty.

Represented Spelman’s chapter of Phi Beta Kappa at the triennial convention of the organization. Palm Beach, Florida, 2-4 August 2012.

2005-2011: Elected to Tenure and Promotion Committee

2005-2008: Elected to Curriculum Committee.

2004-2013: Appointed as Faculty Athletic Representative. In Spring 2013, Spelman ended its relationship with NCAA and ended intramural competition, thereby ending my service in this capacity.

2002-2003: Elected faculty representative to Administrative Council. Member of Faculty Welfare Committee, and the Ad Hoc Committee to evaluate the Office of Institutional Research.

1998-Present: Charter member, Epsilon Chapter of Georgia, **Phi Beta Kappa**. February 1998 – May 1999 and 2012-2014: Vice-President. Helped to prepare the document which supported Spelman’s successful bid to secure a chapter of Phi Beta Kappa.

May 1998- 2001 and May 1995 - May 1996: Elected at-large representative, Faculty Council (faculty governance). **President of Faculty Council 1998 – 2001** (the longest term held by

any president thus far). Responsibilities include overseeing committee activities, planning the agenda for general faculty meetings, and interacting with senior administrators of the college. As President I also represented the faculty at meetings of the Board of Trustees and at the Administrative Council and chaired monthly meetings of the general faculty. I also represented faculty concerns at the Strategic Plan Retreat in the Spring of 1999.

1998-present: **Campus Coordinator, UNCF Mellon Program, Spelman.** I maintain contact with the mentors and fellows on Spelman's campus. I publicize the program and solicit applications from eligible and interested sophomores. We consistently have placed at least at least two students into this program, repeating the success of previous campus coordinator Cynthia Spence (who now coordinates the program nationally).

August 1998- 2000: Vice-Chair of the Student Development Services and Inter-Collegiate Athletics Committee for Spelman College Self-Study.

1999-2000: Volunteer First Year Orientation Section Leader, meeting twice monthly to discuss material in our new text book, focusing on the Liberal Arts Experience.

1987-1990, 1999-2000, 2002-2003: First Year Student Advisor. I have advised sixteen to seventeen new students or transfer students in each of these years. I met with them as a group and individually prior to their registration. I have visited their dorms for special evening events.

August 1995 - March 1996: Chairperson, Search Committee to hire two new faculty members in the Department of English. We hired Stephen Knadler and Opal Moore.

Annually: Faculty Advisor for registration and for English majors. I have eighteen upperclass advisees currently. I meet with them for early registration, and I am available to advise them at registration. I also volunteer routinely and gladly to advise students at registration, at the faculty advising area.

May 1994-May 1995: Chairperson, Search Committee for chairperson of the Department of English.

September 1994-June 1995: Chairperson, Committee to Assess the Services of Career Development and Placement, appointed by the Vice President of Student Affairs.

1994-1995: Elected faculty representative to the Board of Trustees.

1990-1994: Agenda Committee for General Faculty

1988-1990, 1991-1997: one of three appointed Spelman representatives to the Faculty Council, The University Center in Georgia. Now called ARCHE (Atlanta Regional Consortium for Higher Education), this umbrella organization allowed faculty from all of the four-year colleges and universities in the Atlanta area to meet and share concerns and strategies for success.

With Newtona Johnson developed user manuals for the electronic classroom for the humanities,

thereby assisting faculty and students to become competent in writing intensive experiences. Work funded through a grant from Title III. July 1992.

Workshop leader. Summer workshops on teaching writing intensive courses in the electronic classroom. IBM-Sloan Grant, August 10-12, 1992. Bush Grant, August 13-14, 1992.

1992-1993: African Diaspora Committee; 1990-1992: Academic Integrity Committee; 1989-1992: Founders Day Committee; 1987-1990, 1991-1992: Freshman Reading List Committee; 1987-1990: Mortar Board Advisor; 1988-1990: Vice Chair of the Committee on Purpose for Spelman College Self Study; 1988-1990: Faculty Mentor for the Living Learning Program; 1988-1990: Honorary Degree Committee; 1987-1988, 1989-1990: Academic Computing Committee.

SERVICE: Professional Organizations and Other Institutions

Elected to the position of English Area Representative in the College Language Association, 28 March 2014, New Orleans, Louisiana. In this position I evaluate proposals from CLA members who wish to participate in the English language area in future conventions for 2015 and 2016. After two years, I am to rise to the position of Vice-President of CLA, having oversight of the full convention for 2017 and 2018. After those two years, I am to rise to the position of President of the College Language Association, becoming the first Spelman College faculty member to serve in that capacity in the organization's history. The CLA was founded in 1937.

Participated in a choral reading with other members of the Toni Morrison Society in a national tribute to Toni Morrison, "Sheer Good Fortune." Hosted by Nikki Giovanni. Virginia Polytechnic Institute (Virginia Tech), Blacksburg, Virginia. 16 October 2012.

Presented at the annual UNCF-Mellon Coordinators and Mentors Conference. 5 October 2013.

2010 to 2012: Chair of local arrangements for the annual College Language Association Convention held in Atlanta, Georgia, March 28-31, 2012. Spelman College was the host institution. This was a very large and well-attended convention.

2007-Present: Director of the Summer Institute for the Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship Program for Mellon Mays Fellows from UNCF colleges, Emory, and University of the Western Cape (Cape Town, South Africa). The Institute meets for the month of June at Emory University. Dr. Rudolph Byrd led the institute for 13 years prior to my service. In previous summers we have also hosted Fellows from the University of Cape Town and the University of Witwatersrand (Cape Town, South Africa). Those Fellows now attend different Summer Institutes.

1995-April 1997: With Anne B. Warner, co-chaired local arrangements for the annual College Language Association Convention in Atlanta. Hosted by Spelman College. This involved meeting with the CLA Executive committee on several occasions. We secured the hotel, gained financial support from Hallmark Cards, and trained students to serve as hosts. We coordinated faculty volunteers to help with registration. We selected and secured the keynote banquet speaker, Octavia Butler [a noted science fiction writer].

May - October 1994: Local Arrangements Committee to plan the 79th Convention of the Association for the Study of Afro-American Life and History (ASALH). Subcommittees: Co-chair of Souvenir Journal; Served on Publicity and Advertising Committee. I did not play a major role, but I did meet regularly for several months and I did secure a major donation from Georgia Power to help support our activities.

1989-1994: Planning Committee for Faculty Symposia IV - VIII, The University Center In Georgia. (Now **ARCHE**: Atlanta Regional Consortium for Higher Education). We also served as hosts for the symposia.

13 October 1994: Moderator for Grants Writing Workshop. I also served as a planner for this workshop, sponsored by the University Center in Georgia (now **ARCHE**), Faculty Council. Mercer University, Atlanta, Georgia.

12 November 1994: Represented Oberlin College at the Inauguration of Shirley A. R. Lewis, President of Paine College, Augusta, Georgia.

1992-1994: Chairperson, Faculty Council, The University Center in Georgia (now **ARCHE**). As chairperson, I helped plan each of the three quarterly meetings. These plans involved numerous phone calls and meetings. I chaired the actual meetings.

Project Director, Dana Foundation Program, Preparing Minorities for Academic Careers (PMAC), January 1990-May 1994 (a program for juniors and seniors planning to earn Ph.D.'s and teach at the college level) .

1987-1990: **Steering Committee, Black Alumni Committee of the Alumni Council**, Oberlin College. 1982-1984 and 1987-1990: Oberlin College Alumni Representative. 1980-1982: Secretary, **President's Commission on the Status of Minorities at Emory**. 1977-1981: Student Member, **Financial Aid and Admissions Committee**, Institute of Liberal Arts (ILA), Emory. 1980: Student member, **Search Committee for Assistant to the Director**, ILA. 1978-1980: Student-elected member, **Student Committee**, ILA. Programmed social events and student-led colloquia, voted in meetings of ILA faculty. Feb.-June 1979: **Advisory Group** planning an Affirmative Action Workshop attended by Emory's top administrators, Fall, 1979. 1977-1979: **Planning Committee for the Danforth Graduate Fellowship Program's New Fellows' Conference**. Selected and invited plenary speakers and workshop leaders, greeted and assisted fellows and invited guests at the conference, and facilitated the events of each conference (1978, 1979). 1977-1978: Student member, **faculty search committee**, ILA. 1975-1977: **Black Studies Program Committee**, a faculty group which decided on curricular changes, faculty selection, and staff selection. Oberlin College.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS, OFFICES

Association of Departments of English, Executive Committee (three-year term), 2007-2009.

College Language Association (**CLA**), member since 1982. Life member. Elected in March 2014 to serve as English Area Representative. In 2016, this position moves forward to the duty of Vice-President, and in 2018, this position moves forward to the duty of President. If health and strength permit me to serve in that role, I will be the first Spelman professor to be President of the College Language Association.

Langston Hughes Society, Founder and Member since 1981. Vice President, 1990-92. President, 1992-1998. Life member. Continue to serve on the Executive Board.

Modern Language Association (**MLA**), member since 1989.

Toni Morrison Society, charter member and member of Advisory Board, 1993 to 1997. Life member.

Previous memberships (no longer current): Association for the Study of Afro-American Life and History, (ASALH) 1989-1998. Zora Neale Hurston Society, 1988-1998.

OTHER AFFILIATIONS/ COMMUNITY SERVICE

Helping Our Women Warriors (H.O.W.W.), President of the Board of Directors, 2013-Present. This organization, founded in 1998, is designed to assist women in leading productive lives. Programs include G.E.D., public speaking, health, yoga, and personal grooming. I have led public speaking sessions for high school students in the program.

Towers High School PTSA, President, 1998-2000. Member, 1995-2000. This DeKalb County school enrolled over 1300 students each year, but we listed fewer than 400 members of PTSA. We met at least six times each year with the general membership, plus at least six times each year for the executive board to plan activities. PTSA also assisted with eighth grade orientation, with the first day of school, and with some testing. In August 1999, we offered a special program for the incoming eighth graders to encourage successful behaviors in their new educational environment. We brought to the high school over a dozen community leaders, who shared their expertise and their advice with the students and their parents. In 1998-99 we successfully secured a United Way/ Georgia PTA grant of \$1000 to help beautify our campus and encourage positive action by our students and parents.

Action Team 2: Responding to the Curriculum Audit for the DeKalb County Public Schools. Volunteer work in committee, January – April, 1999. We met nearly every week to prepare strategies to respond to the charges of inadequacy revealed in the curriculum audit.

Georgia Peachtree Chapter of Chums, Inc. 1998-2013. Treasurer, 2005-2011. President, 2002-2004. Recording secretary, 2000-2002. Represented chapter at the DC Chapter's 50th Anniversary, May 3, 2003. Represented chapter at Conclaves: 2000, 2003, 2007, 2008.

Greater Towers Community Association, a group of neighborhood organizers campaigning to improve the quality of life in our residential area. February-August, 1999. We met frequently in early 1999 to fight a hotel being planned for our area. We did not succeed in preventing this business from being built two blocks from the local elementary school, but we did rally many forces in the community to work together for the common good.

Hillside Presbyterian Church: Member 1982-1997, 2005-2012. Education Ministry 1982-1997, 2005-2012. Ordained Elder, Dec. 18, 1988. Chairperson, Evangelism Ministry, Jan. 1989-June 1990. Evangelism Ministry/ Liturgy Team, 1989-1995. Church School teacher, Sept. 1986-June 1990; Sept. 1991-1997, Sept. 2005-February 2012. Children's Moment during worship service, 1995-1997, 2002, 2005-2012. Chair of Education Ministry, Jan. 2011-March 2012.

Miscellaneous: Judge for Scholarship and/or Essay Competitions: The Atlanta Jamaican Association, June 1997; The Alliance of Black Telecommunications Employees, June 1999. Judge for chapbook competition, Georgia Poetry Society, Summer 2002. Public speaking workshop for the Student Leadership Institute sponsored by the 100 Black Men of America, Inc., and Coca-Cola. Saturday, August 2, 2003. Habitat for Humanity, participated in two builds and volunteered at a display day, 2000-2003.