

# SHAUNA M. MORGAN

1367 Patterson Office Tower • Lexington, KY 40506-0027 • E-mail: shauna.morgan@uky.edu

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## EDUCATION

**Ph.D. English**, Postcolonial and African American Literature and Theory, Georgia State University, 2012  
**Doktorandin, Amerikastudien**, Johannes Gutenberg Universität-Mainz, Germany, 2010-2012  
**M.A. English**, Creative Writing, Florida Atlantic University, 2002  
**B.A. English**, Ethnic Studies Certificate, Florida Atlantic University, 2000

## TEACHING & RESEARCH INTEREST

Literatures of the African Diaspora (African American, Black British, Afro-European & Caribbean Literature); African Literature & Film; Black Atlantic Studies; Postcolonial Literature & Theory; Decoloniality; South Asian & Indo-Caribbean Literature; Poetry and Poetics; Arts in Conversation; Critical/Transformative Pedagogy

## CREATIVE & SCHOLARLY WORKS

### *Books*

*Ground Provisions: Poems* (2025)

"Liberation Aesthetics in Contemporary Black Poetry" (scholarly monograph in progress)

### *Poems*

"More Than Ever." *Mom Egg Review* (2025)

"New Provisions," "Arch," and "Another Season." *Still: The Journal* (2024)

"Ode to Mountain Mint" *The Pointed Circle* (2024)

"Sweet Samba" and "Bequest." *Solstice: A Magazine of Diverse Voices* (2023)

"Mooring." *PREE Lit* (2023)

"Perpetual Winter," "Fear of Dogs and Other Animals," and "Riposte XIV." *Where We Stand: Poems of Black Resilience* (2022)

"Sonance" and "Sugar Babies." *Interviewing the Caribbean*. (2020). Poems and Interview.

"Résumé Names." *Furious Flower: Seeding the Future of African American Poetry*, Northwestern UP (2020)

"Reflection: A Place of Belonging" and "Residue." *The Louisville Review* (2020)

"Black-throated Songs." *A Literary Field Guide to Southern Appalachia*, U. of Georgia Press (2019)

"Specter" and "Midnight Feeding." *the A-Line: a journal of progressive thought* (2019)

"how to make her stay." *The Quarry: A Social Justice Poetry Database* (2018)

"Drum Festival" and "Scent of Wood and Water." *A Gathering Together* (2018)

"Molasses" and "Omi Adura." *A Gathering Together* (2017)

*Fear of Dogs & Other Animals*. Boston: Central Square Press (2016) Chapbook

"Live Oak" and "Riposte XIV." *Illuminations* (2016)

"Growing and Weeding" and "Sawdust." *Interviewing the Caribbean*. (2015) Poems and Interview.

"This Valley: Strange Things," "This Valley: Away," "This Valley: Home." *Anthology of Appalachian Writers Volume VI* (2014)

"My Mouth Will Be Your Mouth" and "Longing." *The Pierian* (Spring 2014)

"Fear of Dogs and Other Animals." *Pluck!: The Journal of Affrilachian Arts & Culture* (2013)

"Paper Boats," "Royal Poinciana," "Behind Dasheen Leaves and Up Star-Apple Trees," and "Moonshine Babies." *ProudFlesh: New Afrikan Journal of Culture, Politics & Consciousness* (2013)

### *Peer-reviewed Essays*

"For the 'Dark Star': Reading Womanism and Black Womanhood in the Novels of Caryl Phillips." *ARIEL: A Review of International English Literature* 48.3-4 (2017)

"Neocolonialism and Ethnic Gerrymandering in the North American Academy." *College Language Association Journal* 60.2 (2016)

## PUBLICATIONS (Continued)

### *Peer-reviewed Essays (continued)*

“A Problematic Agency: The Power of Capital and a Burgeoning Black Middle Class in Edward P. Jones’s *The Known World*.” *South Atlantic Review* 79.1-2 (2015)

### *Shorter Non-Fiction*

Essay. “Critical Reflection on *Heirlooms*”, *Heirlooms* (Art Book), Darlene R. Taylor (2024)

Essay. ““come into the / black / and live”: Poetry and the Dream of Black Liberation”, *College Language Association Journal*. 63.2 (2020)

Introduction. *Masked Man, Black: Pandemic & Protest Poems*. Frank X Walker (2020)

Essay. “Women like her cannot be contained’: Warsan Shire and Poetic Potential in *Lemonade*” in *The Lemonade Reader: Beyoncé, Black Feminism, and Spirituality*, Routledge Press (2019)

Interview with Yeboah, Amy. *Mosaic: Literary Arts of the Diaspora* (2018)

Preface. “25 Years of Revolutionary Art: Cultural Cartography and the Expanding Landscape of Affrilachian Poetics.” *Black Bone*. Bianca Lynne Spriggs and Jeremy Paden, Eds. (2017)

Web Blog. “Black Poetry Bears Witness.” *Project on the History of Black Writing Blog* (2014)

Review. *Caryl Phillips: Writing in the Key of Life* edited by Bénédicte Ledent and Daria Tunca and *Mobility at Large: Globalization, Textuality, and Innovative Travel Writing* by Justin D. Edwards and Rune Graulund. *Journal of Postcolonial Writing* 49.2 (2013)

Review. *Arab France: Islam and the Making of Modern Europe, 1791-1831* by Ian Coller. *Bulletin of the School of Oriental and African Studies*.74: 3 (2011)

## AWARDS & HONORS

Pushcart Prize nomination for one poem in *Still: The Journal* (2024)

Writer-in-Residence, Carolyn Moore Writing Residency, Portland, Oregon (2024)

Community Pearl of Kentucky, University of Louisville Women’s Center (2023)

Featured Poem, *The Slowdown* Podcast #713 hosted by Ada Limón (2022)

Kentucky Arts Council/Emily Hall Tremain Foundation Grant for “Celebrating the Art & Culture of Kentucky: Some of the Bluegrass is Black” (2021)

Poem of the Week “how to make her stay” Split This Rock (2018)

National Endowment for the Humanities Project Grant, (Dana A. Williams, PD) “Reading the Oral Archive as an Act of Recovery” (2017)

Junior Faculty Writing and Creative Works Summer Academy, Howard University (2017, Declined)

The Wardrobe’s Best Dressed (Sundress Publications) for *Fear of Dogs & Other Animals* (2017)

Catherine L. James Palmer Poetry Prize winner for one poem published in *Interviewing the Caribbean* (2017)

National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Institute “Seshat: A Digital Humanities Initiative” (2016)

Honorable Mention, Rita Dove Prize in Poetry, Center for Women Writers, Salem College (2016)

Obama Fellowship, Obama Institute for Transnational American Studies, Johannes Gutenberg Universität Mainz, Germany (June-July 2015)

The Watering Hole Poetry Fellowship, Santee, South Carolina (2014)

Pushcart Prize nomination for three poems in *Anthology of Appalachian Writers* (2014)

Reginald Lewis Travel Grant, Howard University (Nov 2012, March 2013, Oct 2013, March 2014, Sept 2014)

Summer Faculty Research Fellowship, Office of the Provost, Howard University (May 2014)

National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Institute “Don’t Deny My Voice: Reading and Teaching African American Poetry” (July-August 2013)

*Small Axe* Literary Competition, Poetry Prize Shortlist (December 2011)

Pre-doctoral Diversity Fellowship, Ithaca College, Ithaca, New York (August 2011-May 2012)

Advanced Teaching Fellowship, Georgia State University, Atlanta, Georgia (August 2011-May 2012, Declined)

Bi-National Ph.D. Fellowship, Johannes Gutenberg Universität Mainz, Germany (October 2010-August 2011)

German Academic Exchange (DAAD) Tri-National Summer School Fellowship, Johannes Gutenberg Universität Mainz, Germany (July-August 2009)

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY, Lexington, Kentucky,  
English, African American and Africana Studies, Commonwealth Institute for Black Studies (CIBS)

**Associate Professor**, August 2021-present

**Affiliate Faculty**, August 2019-July 2021

AAS 400/ENG 460 Black Liberation (*Sp20, Fa22*)  
AAS 100/HIS 100 Introduction to African Studies (*Fa20*)  
ENG 107 Introduction to Creative Writing (*Sp24*)  
ENG 265 Survey of African American Literature I (*Sp21, Fa21, Fa24*)  
ENG 266 Survey of African American Literature II (*Sp22*)  
ENG 407 Interim Workshop Creative Writing: Poetry & Art (*Sp23*)  
ENG 507 Advanced Workshop Imaginative Writing: Poetry (*Sp23, Fa24*)  
ENG 607 Creative Writing Workshop: Poetry (*Fa24 Graduate*)  
ENG 608 Craft of Writing: Crafting the Senses (*Fa23 Graduate*)  
ENG 656 Black American Literature: Toni Morrison (*Fa23 Graduate*)  
ENG 771 Seminar in Special Topics: Caribbean Literature (*Fa25 Graduate*)

HOWARD UNIVERSITY, Washington, D.C., Department of English

**Associate Professor**, August 2019-July 2021 (Tenured)

**Assistant Professor**, August 2013-August 2019; **Lecturer**, August 2012-May 2013

ENGL 002 & 003 Freshman Composition for English Majors (*Fa12, Sp12, Sp13*)  
ENGL 003 Fresh Comp: Radical Black Voices and the Rhetoric of Social Change (*Sp12*)  
ENGL 055 Afro-American Literature from 1940: Poetry & Poetics (*Su18 online*)  
ENGL 076 Freshman Composition for Honors (*Fa13*)  
ENGL 104 Sophomore Seminar I: Introduction to English Studies (*Fa13-18*)  
ENGL 105 Sophomore Seminar II: Theories of Interpretation (*Sp14-19*)  
ENGL 118 Introduction to Creative Writing Poetry (*Fa13-18, Sp19*)  
ENGL 129 The Art of the Essay (*Sp13*)  
ENGL 142 Fiction across Cultures (Recent Themes: Middle Passages and Crossings; Fiction to Film; Historical Novels: War/Conflict; Children & Childhood Gender and National Discourse) (*Sp13-19*)  
ENGL 214 African American Poetry (*Fa12, Su18 online*)  
ENGG 230 Studies in Literary Criticism: Global Ways of Reading (Graduate) (*Fa 16*)  
HUMA 107 Women in Literature (Themes: African Women Writers; Anti-Apartheid Literature, Film, and Music; Women in Literature by Men) (*Sp15-17*)

JOHANNES GUTENBERG UNIVERSITÄT-MAINZ, Germany

Obama Institute for Transnational American Studies

**Visiting Faculty/Obama Fellow**, June-July 2015

05.866.140 Black Poetry and Poetics in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century

ITHACA COLLEGE, Ithaca, New York, Department of English

**Pre-doctoral Diversity Fellow**, August 2011-May 2012

ENGL 22100 Survey of African American Literature  
ENGL 37100 21<sup>st</sup>-century Literature of the African Diaspora

JOHANNES GUTENBERG UNIVERSITÄT-MAINZ, Germany

Department of English and Linguistics

**Exchange Lecturer**, October 2010-August 2011

05.866.510 Theory and Methodology: Postcolonial Literature and Theory (*Graduate*)  
05.866.510 Theory and Methodology: Literature and Theory of the Black Atlantic (*Graduate*)  
05.866.122 Introduction to African American Literature

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE (Continued)

GEORGIA STATE UNIVERSITY, Atlanta, Georgia, Department of English

**Instructor**, June 2008-May 2010

ENGL 1101 English Composition 1: African American Culture and History

ENGL 1101 English Composition 1: Understanding Diversity

ENGL 1102 English Composition 2: Rhetoric of Revolution

(Developed for Freshman/Atlanta Connection)

*PEDAGOGICAL WORKSHOPS DESIGNED & FACILITATED*

***Inclusion and Equity Series:*** Fostering Community & Belonging; Designing Inclusive Learning Environments

***Beyond Inclusion Series:*** Enhancing Equity in Learning Spaces; Pedagogy, Imagination, & the Promise of Equity; A Mindful Practice of Equitable Pedagogy; Critical Compassion & The Pedagogy of People

***Decolonizing the Classroom Series:*** Diversifying Syllabi & Curricula: A View Towards Decolonizing the Discipline; Digressing from the Canon and Engaging the Margins; Decentering Power in Knowledge Production

***Remote & Online Learning Series:*** Engage Students & Create Class Community; Equity & Inclusion Online; Online Teaching in Times of Tension

***TA Professional Development Series:*** Syllabus Function and Design, Inclusive Course Design

## OTHER ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE/APPOINTMENTS

UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY, Lexington, Kentucky,

*Department of English, Division of Creative Writing*

**Director of Undergraduate Studies**, July 2024-present

Approve all transfer equivalencies and exceptions regarding the major requirements; collaborate with the department chair, division director, and the appropriate departmental standing committee(s) to engage the department as a whole in curriculum and pedagogical revision and innovation; seek out the discipline's best pedagogical practices and play a major role in facilitating departmental discussions on how these might best be implemented; work with the division director and the professional advisor, where appropriate, to match students with faculty mentors; facilitate an active relationship with the professional advisor and be the division's primary liaison with department; work with the professional advisors and the A&S career advisor on career preparation for students in the major.

*Center for the Enhancement of Learning and Teaching (CELT)*

**Faculty Advisor** July 2024-present

Collaborate with the Assistant Provost for Teaching & Learning/Director of CELT and the Associate Provost for Internationalization to research, communicate and implement new strategies for global learning.

*Center for the Enhancement of Learning and Teaching (CELT)*

**Faculty Advisor for Equity and Inclusion Initiatives** July 2023-June 2024

Communicate research and best practices in inclusive pedagogy and identify opportunities for campus-wide initiatives and improvement with respect to equitable and inclusive teaching and learning. Collaborate with the Director of CELT to research and communicate new strategies for equitable and inclusive teaching and learning at UK and beyond. Design and Develop inclusive practices learning series for the College of Public Health and the College of Medicine. Explore opportunities to expand global learning and teaching and intercultural exchange.

**OTHER ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE/APPOINTMENTS (Continued)***Center for the Enhancement of Learning and Teaching (CELT)***Director of Equity and Inclusion Initiatives in Teaching, Learning, & Academic Innovation**

August 2019-June 2023

Provide executive-level vision and leadership for equity and inclusion in teaching and learning at the University. Communicate research and best practices in inclusive pedagogy and identify opportunities for campus-wide initiatives and improvement with respect to equitable and inclusive teaching and learning. Conduct consultations and design and deliver workshops and other events focusing on equitable and inclusive pedagogies. Collaborate with the Associate Provost for Teaching, Learning and Academic Innovation and the Associate Director of CELT to research and communicate new strategies for equitable and inclusive teaching and learning at UK and beyond. Collaborate on shaping policies, procedures, and education for COVID-19 crisis response, including extensive support for UK's teaching community.

UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA, Charlottesville, Virginia,

*Office of Admission***Admission Officer & Outreach Counselor**, September 2004-August 2005

Served as on-call Dean-of-the-Day for prospective student and family orientation, presented daily information sessions for up to 500 prospective students and families, and coordinated recruitment for Virginia Community College Transfers. Represented the University at regional, national, and international college fairs. Organized and executed on-grounds recruiting special events, including information sessions and one-to-one counseling for prospective students in under-represented groups. Evaluated student applications and recognized scholarship candidates.

*Residence Life Office and Housing Division***Area Coordinator**, July 2002-August 2004

Managed a residential area of 10 buildings housing 1200 first-year students and a total of 64 resident staff. Collaborated with student chair to train, supervise, and evaluate 10 Senior Staff members, as well as, to plan and facilitate staff and individual meetings including staff development. Managed and provided direct follow-up to resident concerns and crisis, including parental notification. Oversaw an administrative and programming budget, served as co-chair for Diversity Professional Development, and facilitated on-going Diversity Education workshops for general faculty, including critical discussions about inclusion and multicultural awareness.

**INVITED SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS*****Media/Public Events***

Interview: Culinary Conversations with Crystal Wilkinson, Kentucky Book Festival (2024)

Podcast: Furious Flower IV Worlds of Black Poetry Conversation with Poet Lorna Goodison (2024)

Streaming Event: "Poetry—Fighting with Words: Then &amp; Now, ASALH TV (2023)

Webinar: "Healing Community: Black Women on The Arts and Liberation Pedagogy"

Center for American Literary Studies (CALS) *Unprecedented* Series, Penn State U. (2023)

LiveStream: Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday Celebration, Lexington, KY (2022)

LiveStream: 5 Episodes "Celebrating the Art &amp; Culture of Kentucky: Some of the Bluegrass is Black" (2021)

Talk Radio: *Accents: A Radio Show for Literature, Art and Culture* WRFL 88.1FM (2019)TV Spot: "Fear of Dogs and Other Animals" *Black Lives Matter: Protect & Serve* WHUT/PBS (2016)Talk Radio: "Artists Using Celebrity for Social Justice" *Key Conversations Radio-Lex Town Media* (2016)Talk Radio: "Let's Make it Better" *Daily Drum Special* WHUR 96.3FM and SiriusXM 141 (2015)***Poetry Readings*****2025:** *Mom Egg Review* Issue 23 Launch; "Get HAAP!" Reading (Carnegie Center for Literacy and Learning);

"Poetry Under the Trees" Tree Week, Lexington Parks &amp; Recreation, (McConnell Springs, KY)

## INVITED SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS (Continued)

### *Poetry Readings (continued)*

- 2024:** Incubator Reading Series (University of Kentucky), “Burn the Mic” (Carnegie Center for Literacy and Learning; “Poetry Under the Trees” Tree Week, Lexington Parks & Recreation, (McConnell Springs, KY); Carolyn Moore House Writer-in-Residence Reading (Portland Community College, OR); “Get HAAPI” Reading (Carnegie Center for Literacy and Learning); Bloodroot Ink Women’s History Month Reading (Lexington Public Main Library, KY); Writing What Is Reading (Luigart Café, Lexington, KY)
- 2023:** Bloodroot Ink “Reclamation” Reading (Loudon House, Lexington, KY)
- 2022:** Commissioned poem for “At the Clearing,” Memorial for Breonna Taylor (The Carnegie Center for Literacy & Learning); Phosphorescence Reading Series (Emily Dickinson Museum)
- 2021:** “Ancestors and Inheritances: Legacies of Black Poetry Global Edition” (Furious Flower Poetry Center and American Academy of Poets); Poets on the Plaza (Library of America and Wicomico Library, Salisbury, Maryland); Words across the Water (South Carolina State University)
- 2020:** Tell it *Slant* Festival (Emily Dickinson Museum); International Festival of Poetry (Univ. of Dhaka, Bangladesh); Women Writers in Bloom Poetry Salon, Bourbon and Poetry Festival; North Carolina Arboretum *Literary Field Guide* Reading
- 2019:** Appalachian Studies Association Conference Special Event “Affrilachia y el Caribe”
- 2018:** Split This Rock Poetry Festival: Poetry of Provocation & Witness; Split this Rock Sunday Kind of Love Feature
- 2017:** The Wild Fig Coffee & Books, Lexington, KY; University of the Bahamas, Nassau, Bahamas; Sankofa Films, Books, and Café, Washington, D.C.; Sterling Allen Brown English Society, Howard University; Clifton Baraka Poetry Series, Howard University; University of Virginia-Wise. Wise, VA; Harrison Museum of African American Culture. Roanoke, Virginia; Ferrum College, Ferrum, Virginia; “Central Square Press: Poetry for the Broken Spaces” Center for Poetic Thought, Washington, D.C.
- 2016:** “Black Lives Matter: Protect & Serve” series recorded and aired on WHUT/PBS; “African American History Month Poetry Reading,” Salisbury University; Phi Beta Sigma Great Lakes Regional Conference, Louisville, KY; Savannah State University, Savannah, GA
- 2015:** “Poetry Night at the Panther’s Den,” Ferrum College; The Watering Hole Retreat, Santee, SC
- 2014:** “A Celebration of Appalachian Storytellers: The Anthology of Appalachian Writers and Photographers” Shepherd University, Shepherdstown, WV
- 2013:** “Don’t Deny My Voice” NEH Summer Institute, Lawrence, KS

### *Lectures*

- “Critical Pedagogy, Mindful Practice: A View Towards Inclusion and Equity.” Teaching and Learning Day, Western Carolina University (2021)
- “Decoloniality and the Radical Aesthetics of Contemporary Black Poetry.” Carter G. Woodson Lecture Series, University of Kentucky (2020)
- “Black Liberation and the Quest for a True History and Bold Future.” Inaugural Black History Month Celebration, Administrative Offices of the Court, Kentucky (2020)
- “The Poetic Language of Memory: Crystal Wilkinson’s Creative Voice” 36<sup>th</sup> Annual Emory & Henry Literary Festival, Emory & Henry College, Virginia (2017)
- “Representations of Womanhood and the Legacy of Black Film in *Lemonade*” Sterling Allen Brown English Society, Howard University (2017)
- “Black Poetry and Poetics in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century: Race, History, & the Cultural Remapping of America” Obama Institute for Transnational American Studies, Johannes Gutenberg Universität Mainz, Germany (2015)

## INVITED SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS (Continued)

### *Lectures (continued)*

- “Literary Proxemics and the Intimate Distances of Black Womanhood in Caryl Phillips’s *Dancing in the Dark*” Africana Studies Emerging Scholars Conference, Gettysburg College (2014)
- “Contemporary African Literature after Achebe” Paper and Roundtable Discussion for After Achebe: *Arrow of God* at Fifty and the Future of African Literature Symposium, Georgetown University (2014)
- “The Russian Experience of Nicholas Said” Departments of English and World Languages and Cultures, Howard University (2013)
- “21st-century Currents: Neo-anticolonialism and the Legacy of Resistance in Caribbean Literature and Film” Caribbean Culture Week, Ithaca College (2012)
- “Scattered Village: Traces of the Ancestor in African American Literature and Film” in conjunction with the *Voices: Truth, Identity, and Art in Africa* exhibit, Handwerker Gallery, Ithaca College (2012)
- “Negotiating the Politics of Display and Representation: A Discussion about Images, Texts, and the Gaze on Black Womanhood” Tuesday Salon at the Handwerker Gallery, Ithaca College (2012)
- “Trauma, Dislocation, and 21<sup>st</sup>-century Caribbean Spaces: Fanon’s ‘Black Man at Home’ in the Literature of Caryl Phillips” Critical Caribbean Symposium, College of the Bahamas (2011)
- “Stranger in Zion: Subalternity and Black Jewry in Caryl Phillips’s *The Nature of Blood*” Centre d’Enseignement et de Recherche en Etudes Postcoloniales, Université de Liège, Belgium (2010)

### *Community Writing Workshops*

- 2025:** “Art Inspired Writing” Levee Collective (February and March art exhibits); “‘break out through another mouth’: Senses and the Self” Bloodroot/Writing What Is
- 2024:** “Writing the Body” Levee Collective
- 2021:** “‘sail through this to that’: Reading and Teaching the Poetry of Lucille Clifton,” Inaugural Clifton House Workshops; Writing What Is: Lucille Clifton Legacy, Bloodroot Ink
- 2020:** “Renegade Poetry and Poetics of Evie Shockley” Kentucky Women Writers Pre-Conference Workshop
- 2018:** “Artistic Intersections: Forging Poetry from Visual Art” Carnegie Center for Literacy & Learning

## CONFERENCES & SYMPOSIA

- “Language, Movement, and the Poetics of Re-membering in Contemporary Jamaican Writing” 20th Triennial Conference of the Association for Commonwealth Literature and Language Studies (ACLALS), University of Nairobi, Kenya (2025)
- The Magic of LOC: LeMoyne Owen College at 160* Film Screening and Discussion College Language Association (2025)
- “Publishing 101” College Language Association (2025)
- “blk folks, it's this thing callt love”: Grief and Other Iterations of Love, Furious Flower IV: Celebrating the Worlds of Black Poetry, James Madison University (2024)

## CONFERENCES & SYMPOSIA (Continued)

- “*CLA Journal*: The Writers and Their Critics” College Language Association (2024)
- “*Furious Flower* Anthologies: Intellectual Communing” Furious Flower Legacy Seminar: Opening the World of Black Poetry, James Madison University (2023)
- “*CLA Journal*: Rooted in Our Legacy, Growing for the Future” College Language Association (2023)
- “Growing the Garden: Paying Tribute to Joanne Gabbin and Furious Flower” Association of Writers and Writing Programs (2023)
- “Love, Literature, and Lust” Roundtable and Reading, Blue Flamingo Literary Festival, University of the Bahamas (2021)
- “Creativity and the Imagined Future of Black Studies” Black Studies @ 50: 50 Years of African American and Africana Studies at UK, University of Kentucky (2019)
- “Literary Re-membling and the Continued Fight for Liberation in Black Life and Study” College Language Association (2019)
- “Islands and Borders: Reimagining the Poetry of the Black Diaspora” Split This Rock Poetry Festival: Poetry of Provocation & Witness (2018)
- “Language of God”: Spirituality and the Sensual Divine in Kei Miller’s Writing, International Conference on Caribbean Literature, University of Bahamas (2017)
- “Sacred Spaces in the African American Poetic Tradition: Literary Re-membling and the Fight for Liberation” Association for the Study of African American Life and History (2016)
- “‘The Soul of Your Variety’: Cultural Memory and Africana Aesthetics in 21st C. Black Poetry” College Language Association (2016)
- “Racialized Borders and Ethnic Restrictions on the United States American Literary Landscape” Modern Language Association Convention (2016)
- “Living and Reading Diaspora in the 21<sup>st</sup>-century Classroom” Association for the Study of the Worldwide African Diaspora (2015)
- “A Trilogy of Cultural Mapping: Cartographies of Identity in the Poetry of Kei Miller” A Global Crossroads?: Caribbean Studies Beyond the Disciplines, Howard University & University of Maryland (2015)
- “Mothers, Myal Women, and Other Mortals: (Super) Heroines in 21st Century Global Black Poetry” College Language Association Convention (2015)
- “Landscape, Love, and the Likeness of Black Womanhood in the Poetry of Frank X Walker” Furious Flower Poetry Conference, James Madison University (2014)
- “‘An Anger That Moves’: Women, Identity, and Resistance in the Poetry of Kei Miller” College Language Association Convention (2014)
- “Claiming Space: Amiri Baraka’s Fight in the Art of Anthologizing and the Science of Editing” Symposium for “In the Tradition”: Howard University Honors Amiri Baraka (2014)
- “Discourse, Resistance, and Literature in the Twenty-first Century: Césaire’s Legacy and the Contemporary Moment” CENTENARY OF AIMÉ CÉSAIRE Aimé Césaire/*La Négritude*: Poetics, Africana History/Identities, and Political Thoughts, Howard University (2013)



## CONFERENCES & SYMPOSIA (Continued)

- “Sons of Empire' and 'Real Englishmen': Identity and Black Manhood in Caryl Phillips's *In the Falling Snow*” AFROEUROPE@NS IV: Black Cultures and Identities in Europe, University of London (2013)
- “The ‘Thrall’ of History: Racial Borders and Identity in the Poetry of Natasha Trethewey” College Language Association Convention (2013)
- “The New Black”: 21<sup>st</sup>-century Poetry and the Rise of a Neo-anticolonial Diaspora” What is Africa to me now? Conference, Université de Liège, Belgium (2013)
- “Neo-anticolonialism: The Legacy of Césaire in 21<sup>st</sup>-century Literature and Activism” South Atlantic Modern Language Association Convention (2012)
- “New Narratives from the Diaspora in the 21<sup>st</sup>-century Literature Classroom” College Language Association Roundtable “Teaching Travel, Immigration, and Exile in Diaspora Texts” South Atlantic Modern Language Association Convention (2012)
- “African American Women and New Narratives of U.S. Hegemony in Edward P. Jones' *The Known World* and *All Aunt Hagar's Children*” College Language Association Convention (2012)
- “Literary Evidence: Historical Fiction and the Story of Empire in Adichie's *Half of a Yellow Sun* and Ghosh's *The Glass Palace*” South Atlantic Modern Language Association Convention (2011)
- “Race and Gender in *The Bondswoman's Narrative* and *Clotel*: Resistance to 19<sup>th</sup>-century White Supremacy and the Legacy of an American President” GSU/JGU/Peking U. Tri-National Summer Seminar, Atlanta Georgia (2010)
- “Sexual Subjugation as a Punitive Response to Resistance in Rohinton Mistry's *A Fine Balance*” 19<sup>th</sup> Annual British Commonwealth & Post Colonial Studies Conference (2010)

## UNIVERSITY & COMMUNITY SERVICE

### ***Selected University of Kentucky Service***

- Member, Faculty of Record Advisory Committee, Gaines Center for the Humanities (2025-present)
- Member, International Advisory Council, International Center (2020-present)
- Navigator, Vice President for Research Postdoctoral Enrichment Program (2024-2025)
- Member, Department of English Chair Search Advisory Committee (2024-2025)
- Member, Dean's Strategic Planning Workgroup - Investing in Our People (2023-2024)
- Member, UK Art Museum Curator Search Committee (2024)
- Member, Executive Director of Education Abroad & Exchanges Search Committee (2023)
- Chair, Teaching Excellence Committee, English Department (2022-2024)
- Member (*ex officio*), UK Core Education Committee (2021-2024)
- Member, Outstanding Teaching Awards Committee, Office of Faculty Advancement (2019-2023)
- Project Lead, Faculty and TA Professional Development, DEI Implementation Plan (2020-2023)
- Planning Committee Member, Great Teachers on Great Challenges Alumni Program Series (2020)
- Presenter, “Intellectual and Creative Life in ‘The Undercommons.’” MLK Center (2020)
- Presenter and Moderator, “Rites, Rituals, and Rebirth: Red in Africana Art & Culture,” Tickled Pink: Red & White in Science, Everything is Science (2020)

### ***Additional Service***

- Creative Works Editor, *CLA Journal*, College Language Association (2025-present)
- Member, Advisory Board, Levee Collective, Lexington, Kentucky (2024-present)
- Member, Advisory Board, Furious Flower Poetry Center, James Madison University (2021-present)

**UNIVERSITY & COMMUNITY SERVICE (Continued)*****Additional Service (continued)***

Editor, *CLA Journal*, College Language Association (2022-2025)  
 External Reviewer for Tenure and Promotion Dossier at Texas State University (2024)  
 Judge, Kentucky State Poetry Society Creative Writing Contest (2023)  
 DEI Advisor, Kentucky Peer Advisor Network (KPAN), Kentucky Arts Council (2021-2022)  
 Chair, Committee on Creative Writing, College Language Association (2021-2022)  
 External Reviewer for Tenure and Promotion Dossier at Howard University (2022)  
 Keynote Speaker, Bluegrass Indo-American Civic Society 33<sup>rd</sup> Annual Scholarship Awards (2020)  
 Judge, Inaugural Tiffany Austin Memorial Poetry Competition, University of the Bahamas (2019)  
 Member, Executive Committee, College of Arts & Sciences, Howard University (2016-2018)  
 Facilitator, School of Business Orientation & Writing Workshops, Howard University (2017, 2018)  
 Judge, Healing Stories Creative Writing Contest, Tuckson Health Connections (2014, 2015, 2017)  
 Judge, South Atlantic Modern Language Association (SAML) Creative Writing Contest (2016)  
 Advisory Editor, *College Language Association Journal* (2013-2015)  
 Advisor, Freshman Seminar, Howard University (2012-2014)  
 Mentor, WACA-Women as Change Agents, Howard University (2013-2014)  
 Coordinator of Freshman Seminar Faculty Advising Program, Howard University (2013)  
 Facilitator, "The Maroon Project" *Conversations with the Artist: Haile Gerima*, Howard Univ. (2014)

***University of Kentucky Exams, Theses, and Dissertations Supervised****Literature, Ph.D.*

Exam and Dissertation Chair: Dane Ritter, ABD, Mark Hines, ABD; Exam and Dissertation Committee: Shelby Roberts, (Ph.D. 2025); Dissertation Chair: Jannell Parsons (Ph.D. 2024)

*Literature, M.A.*

Exam Chair: Kaneesha Lord (2025); Jinmee Lee (2024); Alexis Draut (2024)  
 Exam Committee Member: Colton Barton (2025); Sarah Garrod (2023)

*Creative Writing*

MFA Thesis Chair: Meg C. Whelan, Poetry (2025); Savannah L. Bowen, Fiction (2024)  
 MFA Thesis Committee: Herbert Girtley, Jr., Fiction (2025); KeeShawn Murphy, Poetry (2025); Emily Warren, CNF (2025); Julian Long Fiction-Hybrid (2024); Kasimma Okani, Fiction (2023); Kevin Bond, Fiction (2022)

*External Doctoral Examiner*

|                                              |                              |
|----------------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| College of Agriculture, Food and Environment | Melinda Murdock (Ph.D. 2025) |
| College of Arts and Sciences                 | Norina Samuels (in progress) |

*Undergraduate*

|                                        |                         |
|----------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Gaines Scholar Thesis Committee Member | Ella Brown-Terry (2025) |
| Gaines Scholar Thesis Committee Chair  | Jessica Miller (2024)   |

***Selected Howard University Department of English Service***

Member, Appointments, Promotion, and Tenure Committee (2019-2021)  
 Member, African American Literature Faculty Search Committee (2020-2021)  
 Advisor, Undergraduate Studies Committee (2014-2019)  
 Director, Senior Comprehensive Exams (2018-2019)  
 Advisor, Sigma Tau Delta English Honor Society (2017-2018)  
 Member, Curriculum Committee (2013-2015)  
 Member, Senior Comprehensive Exam Ad-Hoc Committee (2013-2014)

## UNIVERSITY & COMMUNITY SERVICE (Continued)

### *Howard University Dissertations Supervised*

- Committee “Hollering Out the Affrilachian Canon: Diasporic Literature in the Appalachian Region and Beyond” Forrest Yerman (Ph.D. 2025)
- Co-Chair “Black Atlantic Ecological Traditions in Contemporary African American Poetry” Marta Werbanowska (Ph.D. 2019)
- Committee “The Shapes of Her Pen: Ambiguity, Aesthetics, Narration, and Identity in Lynn Nottage’s Plays” Shayla Atkins (Ph.D. 2016)
- Committee “From Nationalism to Landscapism: Spaces-Between, Marronage, and the Literary I-mage-Nation of Zee Edgell, Jamaica Kincaid, and Margaret Cezair-Thompson” Candice Pitts (Ph.D. 2014)

### *Special Projects*

- Investigator, Teaching and Learning during COVID-19 (2020-2021)  
University of Kentucky, Lexington  
Collaborate on IRB-approved research examining the unique challenges for higher education during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Co-Advisor & Faculty, YAALI (Young AfricanA Leadership Initiative) (2014-2019)  
Howard University, Washington, D.C.  
Serve as chaperone and facilitate daily education sessions for HU students participating in annual Ghana Cultural Immersion Summer Program. Facilitate on-going development of literature component for yearly Ghana, South Africa, and Uganda trips. Collaborate on development of Senegal and Liberia programs.
- Advisor, Howard Lannan Fellows, Lannan Fellows Program (2017-2018)  
Folger Shakespeare Library, Washington, D.C.  
Recognize and recommend students for the Lannan Fellows Program and advise the HU cohort including participation in monthly activities at the Folger Shakespeare Library
- Co-founder & Coordinator, Brown Clifton Baraka Memorial Poetry Series (2013-2018)  
Howard University, Washington, D.C.  
Plan and secure funding for an annual poetry reading series in honor of Howard University legends Sterling Brown, Lucille Clifton, and Amiri Baraka
- Chair, Charles Eaton Burch Memorial Lecture Committee (2015-2016)  
Howard University, Washington, D.C.  
Convened the committee to plan lecture and develop new audiences for this occasion. Solicited recommendations from department for Burch lecturer. Identified and invited lecturer and organized event. 2016: Marlon James, Man Booker Prize Winning Author

## CERTIFICATIONS

Collaborative Online International Learning (COIL) Virtual Exchange Leadership Institute (2023); Global Engagement Academy, International Center, University of Kentucky (2020); Blackboard and Distance Learning, Center for Excellence in Teaching, Learning, and Assessment (CETLA), Howard University (2019)

## LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY

German, Intermediate; Jamaican Creole (Patois), Native fluency; Spanish, High Intermediate

## PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Association for Commonwealth Literature and Language Studies (ACLALS); Association for the Study of the Worldwide African Diaspora (ASWAD); Association of Writers and Writing Programs (AWP); College Language Association (CLA); Modern Language Association (MLA); Wintergreen Women Writers