

Keith Byerman

EDUCATION:

Purdue University, Ph.D., 1978; American Studies/English;
Major Field: American Literature, Minor Field: Intellectual History,
Special Field: Black Studies.
Dissertation: "Two Warring Ideals: The Dialectical Thought of W.E.B. Du Bois."
Indiana University, 1970-72, American Studies.
Anderson College, B.A., 1970; English, American Studies.

UNIVERSITY POSITIONS:

Professor, Department of English, Indiana State University, 1991-present;
Associate Editor, *African American Review*, 1987-present;
Affiliate Faculty, Women's Studies, 1997-;
Associate Professor, 1987-1991;
Interim Director, Interdisciplinary Programs, 2010-2011
Administrative Fellow for Research, College of Arts and Sciences, 2003;
Interim Director, University Honors Program, 2005-06
Visiting Professor, Department of Language and Literature,
Columbus College, 1986-87
Fulbright Professor, University of Vienna, 1985-86
Assistant Professor, Department of English, University of Texas at
Austin, 1979-85

HONORS/GRANTS:

Sylvia Rendell Award for Scholarship, Charles Chesnutt Association, 2008
P.I., "Race and Politics," Japan Foundation, 2006
P.I., "Current Trends in African American Studies," Japan-US
Friendship Commission, 2004, \$40,000. Renewed 2005, \$40,300
Dreiser Award for Excellence in Research, 2004
International Travel Grant to Asia, ISU, 2002, 2004, 2006
University Research Grant, ISU, 1988, 1990, 1996, 2001, 2008, 2010
Classroom Development Grant, Center for Teaching and Learning, ISU,
1997
Educational Excellence Award, College of Arts and Sciences, Indiana
State University, 1995
Fulbright Group Travel Award to Africa, Summer 1993
Lila Wallace Foundation, 1992-94 (*African American Review*)
Georgia Endowment for the Humanities, 1987
D. Abbott Turner Foundation, 1987 (Carson McCullers Conference)
Columbus College Foundation, 1987
Fulbright Fellowship, University of Vienna, 1985-86

PUBLICATIONS:

Books:

The Life and Works of John Edgar Wideman. Santa Barbara:
Praeger, 2013.

The Art and Life of Clarence Major. Athens: University of
Georgia Press, 2012.

Co-editor (with Bonnie TuSmith). *Critical Essays on John Edgar
Wideman*. Knoxville: University of Tennessee Press, 2006.

Remembering the Past in Contemporary African American Fiction.
Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2005.

The Short Fiction of John Edgar Wideman. G.K. Hall. 1998.

*Seizing the Word: History, Art, and Self in the Work of W.E.B. Du
Bois*. Athens: University of Georgia Press, 1994.

(With Erma Banks). *Alice Walker: An Annotated Bibliography, 1968-1986*. New York: Garland, 1989.

Fingering the Jagged Grain: Tradition and Form in Recent Black Fiction. Athens: University of Georgia Press, 1986.

Articles/Book Chapters:

"African American Fiction." *Cambridge Companion to American Fiction after 1945*. Ed. John Duvall. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2012. 85-98.

(with Hanna Wallinger). "The 'Fictions' of Race." *Cambridge History of African American Literature*. Ed. Maryemma Graham and Jerry W. Ward, Jr. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2011. 177-205.

"Folk Art as a Means to Female Survival." *Women's Issues in Alice Walker's The Color Purple*. Ed. Claudia Durst Johnson. Detroit: Greenhaven, 2011. 89-97. Rpt. from *Fingering the Jagged Grain*.

"Performing Race: Mixed-Race Characters in the Novels of Charles Chesnutt." *Passing in the Works of Charles W. Chesnutt*. Ed. Susan Prothro Wright and Ernestine Glass. Jackson: University Press of Mississippi, 2010. 84-92.

"Ira Aldridge's *Black Doctor*." *Ira Aldridge, 1807-1867*. Ed. Krystyna Courtney and Maria Lukowska. Frankfurt am Main: Peter Lang, 2009. 41-50.

"Creating the Black Hero: Ira Aldridge's *The Black Doctor*." *Ira Aldridge: The African Roscius*. Ed. Bernth Lindfors. Rochester: University of Rochester Press, 2007. 204-215.

"The Daughter as Outlaw in *The Member of the Wedding* and *The Heart Is a Lonely Hunter*." *Reflections in a Critical Eye: Essays on Carson McCullers*. Ed. Jan Whitt. New York: University Press of America, 2007. 19-32.

"Wideman's Career and Critical Reception." *Critical Essays on John Edgar Wideman*. x-xi.

"Queering Blackness" Race and Sexual Identity in *A Glance Away* and *Hurry Home*. *Critical Essays on John Edgar Wideman*. 93-106

"Secular Word, Sacred Flesh: Preachers in the Fiction of Baldwin and Morrison." *James Baldwin and Toni Morrison: Comparative Critical and Theoretical Essays*. New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2006. 187-204.

"Afterword: Voicing Gayl Jones." *After the Pain: Critical Essays on Gayl Jones*. Ed. Fiona Mills. New York: Peter Lang, 2006. 259-262.

"All Time Is Raw: Violence, Memory, and History in the Poetry of Hayden, Jones and Komunyakaa." *Contours* 2.1 (2004): 32-53.

"Vernacular Modernism in the Novels of John Edgar Wideman and Leon Forrest." *Cambridge Companion to The African American Novel*. Ed. Maryemma Graham. Cambridge: Cambridge UP, 2004. 253-267.

"Disrupting the Discourse: W.E.B. Du Bois and the Construction of Blackness" *Philosophia Africana* 7.1 (2004): 3-14.

"America's Passed Time: Baseball and Race in August Wilson's *Fences*." *Baseball/Literature/Culture*. Ed. Peter Carino. Jefferson, NC: McFarland, 2003. 94-100.

"W.E.B. Du Bois and the Construction of Whiteness." *The Souls of Black Folk: One Hundred Years Later*. Ed. Dolan Hubbard. Columbia: University of Missouri Press, 2003. 161-171.

"Gayl Jones and the Possibilities of Multiculturalism." *Indiana English* 25.1 (2002): 30-35.

"Bloodlines: Creoles of Color and Identity in the Fiction of Ernest

Gaines." *Songs of the New South: Writing Contemporary Louisiana*. Ed. Suzanne Disheroon Green and Lisa Abney. Westport, CN: Greenwood, 2001. 193-201.

"Gender and Justice: Alice Walker and the Sexual Politics of Civil Rights." *The World Is Our Home: Society and Culture in Contemporary Southern Literature*. Ed. Jeffrey J. Folks and Nancy Summers Folks. Lexington: University of Kentucky Press, 2000. 93-106.

"Angularity: An Interview with Leon Forrest." *African American Review* 33.3(1999): 439-450.

"Black Voices, White Stories: An Intertextual Analysis of Thomas Nelson Page and Charles Chesnutt." *North Carolina Literary Review* 8(1999): 98-105

"Is There Race in This Writing? African American Fiction Today." *American Book Review* 21.1(1999): 1

"Songs of the Ancestors: Family in Song of Solomon." *Approaches to Teaching the Novels of Toni Morrison*. Ed. Nellie Y. McKay and Kathryn Earle. New York: MLA, 1997. 135-140.

"The Flesh Made Word: Family Narrative in *Two Wings to Veil My Face*." *Leon Forrest: Introductions and Interpretations*. Ed. John Cawelti. Bowling Green: Bowling Green State UP, 1997. 199-215.

"Untold Stories: Black Daughters in *Absalom, Absalom* and *The Bluest Eye*." *Unflinching Gaze: Morrison and Faulkner Re-envisioned*. Ed. Carol A. Kolmerton, Stephen M. Ross, and Judith Bryant Wittenberg. Jackson: UP of Mississippi, 1997.

"Hip-Hop Spirituality: African-American Cultural Criticism." *Review essay. College Literature* 22.2 (May 1995):134-142.

"Anger in a Small Place: Jamaica Kincaid's Cultural Critique of Antigua." *College Literature* 22.1 (February 1995): 91-102.

"'Slow-to-Anger' People: The Autobiography of Miss Jane Pittman as Historical Fiction." *Critical Reflections on the Fiction of Ernest J. Gaines*. Ed. David C. Estes. Athens: University of Georgia Press, 1994. 107-123.

"Women's Blues: Toni Cade Bambara and Alice Walker." *Literature and Ourselves*. Ed. Gloria Henderson, William Day, and Sandra Waller. New York: HarperCollins, 1994. 957-59. Rpt. from *Fingering the Jagged Grain*.

"Beyond Realism." *Toni Morrison: Critical Perspectives Past and Present*. Ed. Henry Louis Gates, Jr., and K.A. Appiah. New York: Amistad, 1993. 100-125. Rpt. from *Fingering the Jagged Grain*.

"'The Children Ceased to Hear My Name': Recovering the Self in *The Autobiography of W.E.B. Du Bois*." *Multicultural Autobiography: American Lives*. Ed. James Robert Payne. Knoxville: University of Tennessee Press, 1992. 64-93.

"Race and Romance: The Quest of the Silver Fleece as Utopian Narrative." *American Literary Realism* 24.3 (1992): 58-71.

"Gender, Culture and Identity in Paule Marshall's *Brown Girl, Brownstones*." *Redefining Autobiography in Twentieth-Century Women's Fiction*. Ed. Janice Morgan and Colette T. Hall. New York: Garland, 1991. 135-47.

"Remembering History in Contemporary Black Literature and Criticism." *American Literary History* 3.4 (1991): 809-16.

"Beyond Realism: The Fictions of Toni Morrison." Toni Morrison: Modern Critical Views. Ed. Harold Bloom. New York: Chelsea House, 1990. 73-93. Rpt. from *Fingering the Jagged Grain*.

"Desire and Alice Walker: The Quest for a Womanist Narrative." *Callaloo* 12 (1989): 321-31.

"'Dear Everything': Alice Walker's *The Color Purple* as Womanist Utopia." *Utopian Thought in American Literature*. Ed. Arno Heller, Walter Holbling, Waldemar Zacharasiewicz. Tübingen: Gunter Narr, 1988. 171-83.

"Words and Music: Narrative Ambiguity in James Baldwin's 'Sonny's Blues.'" *Critical Essays on James Baldwin*. Ed. Fred Standley and Nancy Burt. New York: G.K. Hall, 1988. 198-204.

"Healing Arts: Folklore and the Female Self in Toni Cade Bambara's *The Salt Eaters*." *Postscript* 5 (1988): 37-43.

"We Wear the Mask: Deceit as Theme and Style in Slave Narratives." *The Art of Slave Narrative*. Ed. Darwin Turner and John Sekora. Macomb: Western Illinois University Press, 1982. 70-83.

"Intense Behaviors: The Use of the Grotesque in Eva's Man and *The Bluest Eye*." *CLA Journal* 25 (1982): 447-57.

"Words and Music: Narrative Ambiguity in James Baldwin's 'Sonny's Blues.'" *Studies in Short Fiction* 19 (1982): 367-72.

"Hearts of Darkness: Narrative Voices in *The Souls of Black Folk*." *American Literary Realism* 14 (1981): 43-51.

"Black Vortex: The Gothic Structure of *Eva's Man*." *MELUS* 7 (1980): 93-100.

Reference Essays:

"African American Review." *Encyclopedia of African-American Literature*. Ed. Wilfred Samuels. New York: Facts on File, 2007. 6-7.

"Bambara, Toni Cade." *Encyclopedia of African-American Literature*. Ed. Wilfred Samuels. New York: Facts on File, 2007. 30-31.

"Jones, Gayl." *Encyclopedia of African-American Literature*. Ed. Wilfred Samuels. New York: Facts on File, 2007. 286-88.

"Kenan, Randall Garrett." *Encyclopedia of African-American Literature*. Ed. Wilfred Samuels. New York: Facts on File, 2007. 297-99.

"Major, Clarence." *Encyclopedia of African-American Literature*. Ed. Wilfred Samuels. New York: Facts on File, 2007. 327-28.

"New Negro." *Companion to Southern Literature*. Eds. Joseph M. Flora and Lucinda H. Mackethan. Baton Rouge: LSU Press. 541-43.

"Race." *Companion to Southern Literature*. Eds. Joseph M. Flora and Lucinda H. Mackethan. Baton Rouge: LSU Press. 705-09.

"W.E.B. Du Bois." *Dictionary of Literary Biography*, Vol. 246: *Twentieth-Century American Cultural Theorists*. 98-110.

"Autobiographies." *Historical Encyclopedia of World Slavery*. Ed. Junius P. Rodriguez. Santa Barbara: ABC-CLIO Press, 1997. I: 60-61.

"African American Criticism, 1965-Present." *Oxford Companion*

to African American Literature. Eds. William L. Andrews, Frances Smith Foster, Trudier Harris. 1997. 190-92.

"Clarence Major." Oxford Companion to African American Literature. Eds. William L. Andrews, Frances Smith Foster, Trudier Harris. 1997. 471-72.

"Gayl Jones." Encyclopedia of African-American Culture and History. Eds. Jack Salzman, David Lionel Smith, Cornel West. 1996. Vol. 3: 1478-79.

"Ernest J. Gaines." Dictionary of Literary Biography, Vol. 152: 51-64.

"Toni Cade Bambara." Oxford Companion to Women's Literature in the United States. 93.

"Gayl Jones." Oxford Companion to Women's Literature in the United States. 449.

"John Edgar Wideman." Dictionary of Literary Biography, Vol. 143: 321-32.

(With Erma Banks). "Alice Walker: A Selected Bibliography, 1968-1988." Callaloo 12 (1989): 343-45.

"Alice Walker." Book of Days 1989. Ann Arbor: Pierian Press, 1989.

"Stephen Vincent Benet." Book of Days 1988. Ann Arbor: Pierian Press, 1988.

"James Madison Bell." Dictionary of Literary Biography, Vol. 50: 3-6.

"Ernest J. Gaines." Dictionary of Literary Biography, Vol. 33: 84-96.

"Gayl Jones." Dictionary of Literary Biography, Vol. 33: 128-35.

Reviews:

Dean McWilliams, Charles Chesnutt and the Fictions of Race. American Literary Realism 38.1 (2005): 73-74.

Elizabeth McHenry, Forgotten Reders: Recovering the Lost History of African American Literary Societies. Journal of American History 90 (2004): 1495-96.

Ralph Ellison: An American Journey. Journal of American History 90 (2003): 1133-34. (Film Review)

Christine Lincoln, Sap Rising. American Book Review 23.4 (2002): 4.

Laura Browder, Slippery Characters: Ethnic Impersonators and American Identities. American Literature 73.4 (2001): 889-90.

Dale E. Peterson, Up from Bondage: The Literatures of Russian and African American Soul. Modern Fiction Studies 47.4 (2001): 1031-33.

John N. Duvall, The Identifying Fictions of Toni Morrison: Modernist Authenticity and Postmodern Blackness. South Atlantic Review 66.3 (2001): 121-122.

Felipe Smith, American Body Politics: Race, Gender, and Black Literary Renaissance. American Literary Realism 32.2 (2000): 181-82.

Jeffery Renard Allen, Rails Under My Back. American Book Review 21.6

(2000): 18, 20.

Julius E. Thompson, Dudley Randall, Broadside Press, and the Black Arts Movement in Detroit, 1960-1995. *Journal of American History* 86 (2000): 746.

Adolph L. Reed, Jr., W.E.B. Du Bois and American Political Thought: Fabianism and the Color Line. *Journal of American History* 84 (1998): 1128-29.

George Hutchinson, The Harlem Renaissance in Black and White; Cheryl Wall, Women of the Harlem Renaissance. *Journal of American History* 83.4 (March 1997): 1449-50.

Shamoon Zamir, W.E.B. Du Bois and American Thought, 1888-1903. *Journal of American History* 83.2 (September 1996): 649-50.

John Edgar Wideman, Fatheralong: A Meditation on Fathers and Sons, Race and Society. *African American Review* 30.2 (Summer 1996): 292-93.

Thadious M. Davis, Nella Larsen, Novelist of the Harlem Renaissance: A Woman's Life Unveiled. *ANQ* 8.4 (Fall 1995): 61- 64.

James S. Leonard, Thomas A. Tenney, and Thadious M. Davis, eds. Satire or Evasion? Black Perspectives on Huckleberry Finn. *American Literary Realism* 27.2 (Winter 1995): 86- 88.

Frank Marshall Davis, Livin' the Blues: Memoirs of a Black Journalist and Poet. *Journal of American History* 80 (1994): 1520-21.

Karla FC Holloway, Moorings and Metaphors: Figures of Culture and Gender in Black Women's Literature. *American Literature* 65 (1993): 184-85.

Cary D. Wintz, Black Culture and the Harlem Renaissance; John F. Callahan, In the African-American Grain: The Pursuit of Voice in Twentieth-Century Black Fiction. *American Literature* 62 (1990): 143-45.

Dickson D. Bruce, Jr. Black Writing from the Nadir: The Evolution of a Literary Tradition, 1877-1915; Horace A. Porter, Stealing the Fire: The Art and Protest of James Baldwin; Henry Louis Gates, Jr., The Signifying Monkey: A Theory of Afro-American Literary Criticism. *Modern Fiction Studies* 35 (1989): 768-71.

Reginald Martin, Ishmael Reed and the New Black Aesthetic Critics; Karla F.C. Holloway, The Character of the Word: The Texts of Zora Neale Hurston; Karla F.C. Holloway and Stephanie Demetrakopolous, New Dimensions of Spirituality: A Biracial and Bicultural Reading of the Novels of Toni Morrison; Robert O'Meally, New Essays on Invisible Man; Alan Nadel, Invisible Criticism: Ralph Ellison and the American Canon. *Modern Fiction Studies* 34 (1988): 634-38.

John T. Kneebone, Southern Liberal Journalists and the Issue of Race, 1920-1944. *Mississippi Quarterly* 40 (1987): 116-18.

William L. Van Deburg, Slavery and Race in American Popular Culture. *Research in African Literatures* 18 (1987): 238-41.

Zora Neale Hurston, Dust Tracks on the Road; Sylvia Wallace Holton, Down Home and Uptown: The Representation of Black Speech in American Fiction; Houston A. Baker, Jr., Blues, Ideology, and Afro-American Literature: A Vernacular Theory; Trudier Harris, Exorcising Blackness: Historical and Literary Lynching and Burning Rituals; and Mari Evans, Black Women Writers

(1950-1980): A Critical Evaluation. *Modern Fiction Studies*
31 (1985): 730-35.

Louis R. Harlan, Booker T. Washington: The Wizard of Tuskegee,
1901- 1915. *Southwestern Historical Quarterly* 87 (1984): 429-30.

Robert Stepto, From Behind the Veil: A Study of Afro-American
Narrative. *Studies in the Novel* 14 (1982): 214-16.

Barbara Christian, Black Women Novelists: The Development of a
Tradition 1892-1976; Robert G. O'Meally, The Craft of Ralph
Ellison; and Ladell Payne, Black Novelists and the Southern
Literary Tradition. *Modern Fiction Studies* 28 (1982): 303-6.

CURRENT PROJECTS:

Articles:

"Racial Self-Fashioning: Phillis Wheatley, Olaudah Equiano, and
Portrayals of Blackness" (In progress)

INVITED LECTURES/PRESENTATIONS, 1990-2013:

"Ukawsaw Gronniosaw and the Ambiguities of Race."
American Society for Eighteenth Century Studies, 4 April 2013. Cleveland

"Philadelphia Fever: Matthew Carey, Richard Allen, and the Yellow Fever Epidemic of 1793."
Midwestern American Society for Eighteenth Century Studies, 11 October 2012.

"Charles Chesnut's Black Workingmen in Slavery and Freedom."
American Literature Association, 25 May 2012.

"Clarence Major: Painting." Roundtable on Clarence Major at 75.
ALA, 25 May 2012.

"Ottobah Cugoana, Race, and Legal Discourse."
American Society for Eighteenth Century Studies, 16 March 2012.

"Othello's 'Essay on Negro Slavery' and Racial Discourse." MWASECS, 5 November 2011.

"Writing Trauma: Jerry Ward's *The Katrina Papers*." ALA 26 May 2011.

"Fanon and *The Island*: Problems of Genre." ALA, 28 May 2010

"Henri Gregoire, Thomas Jefferson, and the Discourse on Race." ASECS, 19 March 2010.

"Constructing a Life: Biography and Fiction in the Work of John Edgar Wideman."
Louisville Conference, 18 February 2010.

"The Microstories of John Wideman." American Literature Association, 22 May 2009.

"'This Business of Saving Souls Has No Ethics': Religious Tradition in the Works of Richard Wright."
100 Years of Richard Wright, University of Utah, 5 April 2009.

"Thomas Jefferson and the American Discourse on Race." ASECS, 28 March 2009.

"Transgressing Transgression: Race and Homosexuality in 1990s Black Popular Fiction."
MLA, 29 December 2008.

"Hunting in the Modern World: Song of Solomon and Go Down, Moses."
Toni Morrison Conference, 25 July 2008.

"The Accidental Postmodernist: Revisions of Clarence Major's All Night Visitors."
American Literature Association, 25 May 2008.

"The Construction of Black Masculinity in the Narrative of Olaudah Equiano."
ASECS, 28 March 2008.

"Violence and Transcendence in the Fiction of Charles Johnson."
MLA, 28 December 2007.

"What is Black about Black Literature? An Inquiry."
AALCS Symposium, 26 October 2007.

"Ira Aldridge and The Black Doctor."
University of Lodz (Poland), 25 July 2007.

"The Civil Rights Movement in Image and Music."
Okinawa International University, 30 June 2007.

"The Music of the Civil Rights Movement."
Oshima Maritime College, 28 June 2007.

"Images of Africa in Contemporary African American Fiction."
Japan Black Studies Association, 25 June 2007.

"John Wideman, the Black Atlantic, and Modernism."
CAAR, 19 April 2007

"Raymond Andrews as Folk Historian."
Southern Writers Symposium. 23 February 2007.

"Negotiating the Life: Writing the Biography of Clarence Major."
ALA Symposium on Biography. 9 December 2006.

"Creating the Black Hero: Ira Aldridge's The Black Doctor."
American Literature Association. 27 May 2006.

"The Third Race: Mixed-Race Characters in the Louisiana Fiction of Charles Chesnutt and Ernest Gaines." MELUS. 29 April 2006.

"Jane and All the People: Ethnicity and the Moral Structure of The Autobiography of Miss Jane Pittman." Colloque International on Ernest J. Gaines, Tours, France. 4 November 2005.

"The Multiple Disguises of Olaudah Equiano, or Gustavus Vassa"
Midwestern ASECS. 31 October 2005.

"Other Victims, Other Crimes: Women and the Legal System in Billy and 'Solitary.'" American Literature Association. 26 May 2005.

"Urban Legends: Black Identity and the City." Collegium for African American Research, Université François-Rabelais. 22 April 2005.

"Fashioning the Racial Self: Phillis Wheatley, Olaudah Equiano, and the Imagery of Blackness" American Society for Eighteenth Century Studies. 31 March 2005.

"Patterns of Recent African American Fiction." Multi Ethnic Studies Association of Japan, Aoyama Gakuin University, Tokyo. 3 July 2004.

"The Contemporary Meaning of W.E.B. Du Bois." Japan Black Studies Association, Kobe University for Foreign Studies. 26 June 2004.

"Charles Chesnutt in the Twentieth-First Century." American Literature Association, San Francisco. 28 May 2004.

"Contemporary African American Criticism." University of Helsinki. 12 March 2004.

"Performing Race: Mixed-Race Characters in the Novels of Charles

Chesnutt." MLA, San Diego. 27 December 2003.

"Fevers: Philadelphia and the Apocalypse." John Edgar Wideman Society Conference, U of Pennsylvania. 10 October 2003.

"The Word and the Flesh: Spirituality in Randall Kenan's Fiction." American Literature Association, Cambridge, MA. 23 May 2003.

"A Home in That Rock: Southern Place and African American Writing." MELUS, Boca Raton. 12 April 2003.

"Du Bois and Washington: Who Da Man?" Souls of Black Folk Conference, Madison, WI. Response to William Andrews. 11 April 2003.

"Trends in Contemporary African American Criticism." Japan Black Studies Association, Kobe. Keynote address. 25 June 2002.

"Lamentations: Two Cities as Mourning Narrative." American Literature Association, Long Beach, CA. 31 May 2002.

"Gayl Jones and the Possibilities of Multiculturalism." MELUS, Seattle. 11 April 2002.

"Bloodlines: Race and the Complexities of Culture in Ernest Gaines's Fiction." Society for the Study of Southern Literature, Lafayette, LA. 16 March 2002.

"Charles Chesnutt and the Discourse of Race: A New Historical Reading." MLA, New Orleans. 27 December 2001.

"Against Desire: Traumatic Narrative in Gloria Naylor's Bailey's Cafe." ALA Contemporary Literature Conference, Santa Fe. 27 October 2001.

"Outlaw Figures in the Fiction of John Edgar Wideman." UNSA International Conference on Law and Literature, Nice, France. 27 June 2001.

"Raymond Andrews and the Construction of Black Masculinity." American Literature Association, Cambridge, MA. 26 May 2001.

"Beloved, Mama Day, and the Problematics of Motherhood." College Language Association, New Orleans. 21 April 2001.

"Unmaking Trauma: Beloved as Novel and Film." North East MLA, Hartford. 30 March 2001.

"Re-Membering the Past: History and Trauma in Contemporary African American Narrative." University of Notre Dame. 23 February 2001.

"The Color of Freedom: Existentialism and Race in Richard Wright's Eight Men." MLA, Washington. 28 December 2000.

"Apocalyptic Visions and False Prophets: The End(s) of History in Morrison, Wideman, and Johnson." African American Literature and Culture Society Conference, Salt Lake City. 28 October 2000.

"(Re)-Centering the Self: Marginality, Nationality, and Identity in The Autobiography of W.E.B. Du Bois." Autobiography and Changing Identities Conference, University of British Columbia. 29 July 2000.

"The Art and Imagination of Margaret Walker." Margaret Walker Symposium, Jackson, MS. 7 July 2000.

"Daughter as Outlaw: The Law of the Father in The Member of the Wedding." American Literature Association, Long Beach, CA. 28 May 2000.

"Race and the Boundaries of Writing: John Edgar Wideman's Postmodern Fictions." College Language Association, Baltimore. 7 April 2000.

"W.E.B. Du Bois and the Construction of Whiteness in The Souls of Black Folk." South Atlantic MLA, Atlanta. 4 November 1999.

"The Rawness of Time: Violence and Voice in the Poetry of Gayl Jones." Pan-African Conference, Terre Haute, IN. 10 April 1999.

"Discomfitting the Comfortable: Toni Morrison and the Shaping of American Literary Culture." Invited Lecture. Purdue University Black Studies Symposium. 1 April 1999.

"Beloved: A Woman's View of Slavery." Invited Lecture. University of Michigan-Dearborn. 16 February 1999.

"Burying the Dead: The Pain of Memory in Toni Morrison's Beloved." Invited Lecture. University of Michigan-Dearborn. 15 February 1999.

"Gender and Justice: Sexual Politics and Civil Rights in the Fiction of Alice Walker." South Atlantic MLA, Atlanta. 6 November 1998.

"Quiet As It's Kept: Jazz as Cultural Critique." University of Utah, Salt Lake City. 10 March 1998.

"The Trauma of History: Uses of the Past in Contemporary African American Narrative." South Atlantic MLA, Atlanta. 14 November 1997.

"Teaching Race in the White University." National Conference on Whiteness and Racism. Cambridge, MA. 7 November 1997.

Organizer and Chair, "Carson McCullers: Reflections in a Critical Eye." American Literature Association, Baltimore. 24 May 1997.

"History/HisStory: Constructing the Black Male Grand Narrative." American Literature Association. 23 May 1997.

"America's Passed Time: Race and Baseball in August Wilson's Fences." Baseball in Literature and Culture, Terre Haute. 18 April 1997.

"Art and Propaganda: Aesthetic Theory in the Harlem Renaissance." Pan African Studies Conference, Terre Haute. 11 April 1997.

"Black Voices, White Stories: An Intertextual Reading of Page and Chesnut." SAMLA, Savannah. 10 November 1996.

"Untold Stories: Black Daughters in Absalom, Absalom! and The Bluest Eye." American Literature Association, San Diego. 1 June 1996.

"W.E.B. Du Bois and Booker T. Washington After 100 Years." Cotton Exposition Centennial Lecture, Atlanta History Center, Atlanta. 24 October 1995.

"Jazz: Toni Morrison's Rewriting of the Harlem Renaissance." Toni Morrison Conference, Louisville. 6 April 1995.

"Big Easy in L.A.: Race in the Detective Fiction of Walter Mosley." Popular Culture Association, Chicago. 7 April 1994.

"Daughters of Yoknapatawpha: Patriarchy and Women Characters in Absalom, Absalom!" Twentieth Century Literature Conference, Louisville. 14 February 1994.

"Black Writers and Southern Tradition: 'A Home in that Rock.'" South Atlantic MLA, Atlanta. 4 November 1993.

"Big City Blues: Toni Morrison's Jazz." Popular Culture Association, New Orleans. 10 April 1993.

"Anger in a Small Place: Jamaica Kincaid's Critique of Antigua." South Atlantic MLA, Knoxville. 12 November 1992.

"The Kenyatta Novels of Donald Goines." Popular Culture Association, Louisville. 20 March 1992.

"Image and Ideology: Documentary Photography and Southern Literary Artists." South Atlantic MLA, Atlanta. 16 November 1991.

"Life Story as Cultural Critique: The Autobiography of W.E.B. Du Bois." South Atlantic MLA, Atlanta. 15 November 1991.

"The Complex Fate of the Black Southern Writer." Charleston Writers Conference, Charleston, SC. 8 April 1990.

"'Just Like Slavery Times': Bloods and Afro-American Culture." American Culture Association, Toronto. 8 March 1990.

TEACHING:

Undergraduate:

Honors Composition
Honors Seminar: Racism and Antisemitism
Freshman Composition
Freshman Humanities
Writing in Different Disciplines: Arts and Humanities
Advanced Composition: Race, Class, and Gender; Race and Racism
Introduction to Literature
Masterworks of Literature: American
American Literature Since 1865
American Novel Since 1920
American Literature and Thought, 1840-1920
Multicultural American Literature
Black Literature Survey
Literature of the Black World: Africa and the Diaspora
Black Literature Before 1915
Harlem Renaissance
Modern Black Literature
African American Folklore
Contemporary Black Fiction
Literature of the American South
Modern Short Story
Law and Literature
Business and Literature
Honors Seminars (UT-Austin): American Images, Race in the Modern World
Conference Courses in Literature: Southern Women Writers, Early American Literature and Thought, Early American Women Writers, Afro-American Women Writers
American South: Black and White

Graduate:

Toni Morrison and William Faulkner
Contemporary African-American Narrative
Bibliography and Research Methods
William Faulkner and Southern Culture
Southern Literature

Afro-American Literature and Thought
Research Seminar in Southern Literature
Conference Courses in English:
Postcolonial Literature and Theory
American Culture, 1880-1920
Conference Course in American Studies:
Architectural Motifs in American Culture

OTHER PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES:

Interim Director, University Honors Program, 2005-06
Faculty, Language Matters: NEH Seminar on Toni Morrison, 2003, 2005
Administrative Fellow for Research and Graduate Studies, College of
Arts and Sciences, ISU, 2003
Associate Editor, African American Review, 1987-
President, John Edgar Wideman Society, 2001-
Conference Co-ordinator, First International John Edgar Wideman
Conference, U of Pennsylvania, October 2003
Treasurer, Toni Morrison Society, 2000-
Program Committee Chair, African American Literature and Culture
Society, 1997-
Program Committee, Co-Chair, Charles Chesnutt Association, 1997-
Program Chair, John Edgar Wideman Society, 2000-
Consultant, Ernest Gaines documentary, Louisiana Educational
Television, 1990
External Reader: American Literary Realism, American Quarterly,
American Studies, Contours, Journal of American History, PMLA, MELUS
Book Manuscript Consultant: University of Georgia Press, University
Press of Mississippi, University of Tennessee Press, UMI Press,
Norton, University of Missouri Press, University of Illinois Press,
Bedford/St. Martin's, University of North Carolina Press, LSU Press,
University of Michigan Press, Ohio State University Press
Conference Co-ordinator, Carson McCullers Symposium. Columbus, Georgia,
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Outside Evaluator for Tenure and Promotion for 23 universities
Dissertation and Thesis Committees

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS:

Modern Language Association
American Literature Section, Modern Language Association
South Atlantic Modern Language Association
American Studies Association
Great Lakes American Studies Association
Multi Ethnic Literatures of the United States
College Language Association
Toni Morrison Society
African American Literature and Culture Society
Charles Chesnutt Association
Society for the Study of Southern Literature
John Edgar Wideman Society
William Faulkner Society