

ROBERT ELLIOT FOX

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PRESENT POSITION

Professor of English and Africana Studies, Southern Illinois University at Carbondale.

ACADEMIC QUALIFICATIONS

- Ph.D., English and American Literature, SUNY/Buffalo, September 1976.
- Graduate study, University of California at Berkeley, 1966-67.
- B.A., English, Cornell University, June 1966.

AWARDS AND HONORS

- U.S. Speaker and Specialist Grant, United States Information Agency, October 1998.
- Special Research Program Award, Office of Research and Development Administration, Southern Illinois University at Carbondale, 1993-94, 1994-95.
- Interim Research Award, College of Liberal Arts, Southern Illinois University at Carbondale, Summer 1993.
- Fellow, W.E.B. DuBois Institute for Afro-American Research, Harvard University, 1991-92. (In residence as Visiting Scholar, Spring 1992.)
- Senior Fellowship, American Council of Learned Societies, 1991-92.

PREVIOUS ACADEMIC POSITIONS

- Associate Professor, Department of English, Suffolk University, Boston, 1990-1991. Assistant Professor, 1985-1990; Director of the Collection of Afro-American Literature, Suffolk University/Museum of Afro-American History/National Park Service, 1985-1991.
- Member, external teaching staff, Program in the Humanities and the Professions, Brandeis University, 1986-88.
- Senior Lecturer and Director of Graduate Studies, Department of Literature in English, University of Ife, Nigeria, 1984-85; Lecturer II, 1981-84; Lecturer I, 1978-81.
- Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of English, State University of New York College at Brockport, 1977-78.
- Teaching Fellow, Department of English, SUNY/Buffalo, 1967-70, 1975-76.

NON-ACADEMIC WORK EXPERIENCE

- Associate Editor, *CITY* Magazine (San Francisco), May 1973-March 1974.
- Contributing Editor, *San Francisco Phoenix*, October 1972-April 1973, March-August 1974.

PUBLICATIONS

BOOKS

- *Masks of Light: Poems 1962-2012*. Brown Turtle Press, 2015.
- *Masters of the Drum: Black Lit/oratures Across the Continuum*. Westport, Connecticut: Greenwood Press, 1995.
- *Conscientious Sorcerers: The Black Postmodernist Fiction of LeRoi Jones/Amiri Baraka, Ishmael Reed and Samuel R. Delany*. Westport, Connecticut: Greenwood Press, 1987.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO BOOKS

- "'This U-Shaped Hole of Fire and Insight': Meditations on Delany's *Dhalgren*." *On Delany's Dhalgren*, ed. Bill Wood. (Gray Rabbit/Fantasy Books.) Reprint.
- "Consummate Scholar, Valued Friend," *Crossing Borders: Essays on Literature, Culture, and Society in Honor of Amritjit Singh* (Fairleigh Dickinson UP, 2017): 312-313.
- "Blue Syntaxophones: The Poetry of Bob Kaufman," *African American Writing*, Vol. 5, ed. A. Robert Lee (Routledge, 2012): 112-127. [Reprint of chapter 4 of my book *Masters of the Drum*.]
- "Henry Louis Gates, Jr.," *Contemporary Literary and Cultural Theory*, ed. Michael Groden, Martin Kreiswirth and Imre Szeman (Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins University Press, 2012): 227-230.
- "Bradley, David." *The Greenwood Encyclopedia of Multiethnic American Literature*, Volume One (Westport, CT: 2005): 309-10.
- "Flowers, A. R." *The Greenwood Encyclopedia of Multiethnic American Literature*, Volume Two (Westport, CT: 2005): 750-51.
- "Jeffers, Lance." *The Greenwood Encyclopedia of Multiethnic American Literature*, Volume Three (Westport, CT: 2005): 1136-37.
- "Salaam, Kalamu ya." *The Greenwood Encyclopedia of Multiethnic American Literature*, Volume Four (Westport, CT: 2005): 1961-62.
- "Thomas, Lorenzo." *The Greenwood Encyclopedia of Multiethnic American Literature*, Volume Five (Westport, CT: 2005): 2151-52.
- "Diasporacentrism and Black Aural Texts." *The African Diaspora: African Origins and New World Self-Fashioning*, ed. Ali Mazrui, Isidore Okpewho, and Carole Boyce Davies (Indiana University Press, 1999): 367-78.
- "Becoming Post-White." *MultiAmerica: Essays on Cultural Wars and Cultural Peace*, ed. Ishmael Reed (New York: Viking, 1997): 6-17.
- "*Brothers and Keepers*." *The Oxford Companion to African American Literature*, ed. William L. Andrews, Frances Smith Foster, and Trudier Harris (New York: Oxford University Press, 1997): 99-100.
- "*Flight to Canada*." *The Oxford Companion to African American Literature* (New York: Oxford UP, 1997): 281.
- "*Last Days of Louisiana Red, The*." *The Oxford Companion to African American Literature* (New York: Oxford UP, 1997): 428-29.
- "*Mumbo Jumbo*." *The Oxford Companion to African American Literature* (New York: Oxford UP, 1997): 514.
- "Papa LaBas." *The Oxford Companion to African American Literature* (New York: Oxford UP, 1997): 559.

- "Philadelphia Fire." *The Oxford Companion to African American Literature* (New York: Oxford UP, 1997): 572-73.
- "Raven Quickskill." *The Oxford Companion to African American Literature* (New York: Oxford UP, 1997): 621.
- "Reed, Ishmael." *The Oxford Companion to African American Literature* (New York: Oxford UP, 1997): 624-26.
- "Terrible Twos, The." *The Oxford Companion to African American Literature* (New York: Oxford UP, 1997): 719.
- "Yellow Back Radio Broke-Down." *The Oxford Companion to African American Literature* (New York: Oxford UP, 1997): 796-97.
- "Samuel R. Delany." *The Encyclopedia of African-American Culture and History*, Vol. 2 (New York: Macmillan, 1996): 737-38.
- "Science Fiction." *The Encyclopedia of African-American Culture and History*, Vol. 5 (New York: Macmillan, 1996): 2403-2405.
- "Preface." *Dictionary Catalog of the Collection of African American Literature in the Mildred F. Sawyer Library of Suffolk University* by Edward Clark (Boston: Suffolk University, 1996): xv.
- "'This U-Shaped Hole of Fire and Insight': Meditations on Delany's *Dhalgren*." *Ash of Stars: On the Writing of Samuel R. Delany*, ed. James Sallis (Jackson: University of Mississippi Press, 1996): 97-108.
- Annotated Bibliography for the Teacher's Manual to *African American Literature: Voices in Tradition* (Austin: Holt, Rinehart and Winston, 1992): 309-11.
- "The African Literary Tradition." *African American Literature: Voices in Tradition* (Austin: Holt, Rinehart and Winston, 1991): 73, 76-78, 83-88, 90-92, 97, 118.
- "Foreword." *Cantares d'Africa (Songs of Africa)* by Antonio Vieira (Rio de Janeiro: Reix Editora S.A., 1981): 11.
- "From *Brain Damage* (A Novel)." *Yardbird Lives!*, ed. Ishmael Reed and Al Young (New York: Grove, 1978): 41-45. [Reprint]

ESSAYS/ARTICLES

- "Ted Joans and the (B)reach of the African-American Literary Canon." *MELUS* 29.3/4 (Fall/Winter 2004): 41-58.
- "Tutuola and the Commitment to Tradition." *Research in African Literatures* 29.3 (Fall 1998): 203-208.
- "'This You-Shaped Hole of Insight and Fire': Meditations on Delany's *Dhalgren*." *The Review of Contemporary Fiction* 16.3 (Fall 1996): 129-35. [Shorter version of the piece that appeared in the collection *Ash of Stars*.]
- "Mumbo Gumbo." *Transition* 67 (1995): 102-112.
- "Afrocentrism and the X-Factor." *Transition* 57 (1992): 17-25.
- "Derek Walcott: History as Dis-ease." *Callaloo* 9.2 (1986): 331-40.
- "The Politics of Desire in Delany's *Triton* and *The Tides of Lust*." *Black American Literature Forum* 18.2 (1984): 49-56. Reprinted in *Ash of Stars: On the Writing of Samuel R. Delany*, ed. James Sallis (Jackson: University of Mississippi Press, 1996): 43-61, and *Contemporary Literary Criticism*, vol. 141 (Gale, 2001).

- "Blacking the Zero: Toward a Semiotics of Neo-Hoodoo." *Black American Literature Forum* 18.3 (1984): 95-99. Reprinted in *The Critical Response to Ishmael Reed*, ed. Bruce Dick (Greenwood Press, 1999): 46-58.
- "Images of Oppression in the Stories of Luis Bernardo Honwana." *Lusophone Areas Studies Journal* 3 (1984): 29-39.
- "Africa and Africanisms in *Finnegans Wake*." *Komparatistische Hefte* 8 (1983): 79-101.
- "Big Night Music: Derek Walcott's *Dream on Monkey Mountain* and the 'Splendours of Imagination'." *The Journal of Commonwealth Literature* 17.1 (1982): 16-27. Reprinted in *Critical Perspectives on Derek Walcott*, ed. Robert Hamner (Three Continents Press, 1993): 202-211.
- "Indivisible Man: The Significance of Trueblood's Dream and Act." *Kiabara* 4.1 (1981): 193-209.
- "The Role and Future of the Artist in a Developing Nigeria." *Sokoti* 2.1 (1980): 8-11.
- "The Logic of the White Castle: Western Critical Standards and the Dilemma of Black Art." *Obsidian* 3.2 (1977): 18-27.

CREATIVE WORK

FICTION

- "Megatherium." *Gallimaufry* 3 (1974): 11-12.
- "From *Brain Damage* (A Novel)." *Yardbird Reader* 2 (1973): 185-89. [This piece received favorable mention in the *N.Y. Times Book Review* (February 1, 1976): 35. The original manuscript was a finalist in the Fiction Collective/ Braziller First Novel Contest in 1976.]
- "End of Story." *San Francisco Signal* 4 (1972): 26-27.

POETRY

- "Zone of Storms" and "Curiosities of the Pleasure Dome." URL: <http://www.convergence-journal.com/summer11>.
- "Living Out the Drought," *Postcolonial Text* 1.2 (2005).
- "Amos Tutuola," *Postcolonial Text* 1.1 (2005).
- "For Ted Joans." Ted Joans Lives! A Tribute (October 2003). URL: <http://www.emptymirrorbooks.com/tedjoanslives.html>.
- "For Allen Ginsberg." The Allen Ginsberg Memorial Page (April 1997). URL: <http://www.buffnet.net/~deadbeat/ginsberg/#poetry>.
- "A Spell Against South Africa." *Venture* (1991): 28-29.
- "Return of the Native," "Momentum." *Venture* (1986): 24, 26
- "The Bush of Dreams." *Ife Studies in African Literature and the Arts* 2 (1984): 58.
- "Omo America." *West Africa* (8 August 1983): 1822.
- "Utterance of Oracles," "Form and Content," "Writing Lesson." *Ijala* 9.5 (July 1983): 34-35, 79.
- "Ulysses in Africa," "Logogenesis," "Bewitchment." *Okike* 24 (June 1983): 24-26.
- "African Jones," "For Chi-Chi." *Okike* 19 (September 1981): 11-12.
- "Ceremonies with Music." *Ijala* 7.3 (1981): 29.
- "Chameleon," "Eight Evocations of Night." *West Africa* (11 April 1983): 901.
- "The King of Clocks." *Beau Fleuve* (Spring 1975): 6.
- "Letter to Francie." *The Cathartic* (May 1975): 11.
- "Orchard." *Inprint* (June 1975): 17.
- "Jargon," "Outside, shadows press . . ." *San Francisco Phoenix* (Summer 1974).
- "Morning on Sixth Avenue." *Anonym* (Fall 1968).

- "Solo," "I Encounter a Barbarian Critic While Boozing and Strike a Blow for Art," "The Author Writes Five Words Against Chaos." *The Fifth Season* (Spring 1967): 5-7.
- "Notes From Underground." *New Word 2* (May 1965): 19-20.
- "Incident." *Image* (Spring 1965): 4.
- "Odysseus," "Rimbaud at the Circus," "Ahab," "Untitled." *Selected Poetry of the Seventeenth Festival of Contemporary Arts* (Ithaca: Cornell University, 1963): 17-18.
- "Empathy," "Nocturne." *The Hobart Review* (Spring 1963): 30, 48.

INTERVIEWS

- "Interview with Lorna Goodison." *Konch* 1.1. (Winter 1990): 40-45.
- "Interview with Nuruddin Farah." *Daily Times* (Nigeria), August 19, 1989, 12; September 2, 1989, 10; September 9, 1989, 10-11; September 16, 1989, 15.
- I am the subject of a videotaped interview conducted by Stan Sanvel Rubin for the permanent archives of the Brockport Writers' Forum, SUNY College at Brockport (October 1987).
- "A Conversation with Nuruddin Farah" (conducted jointly with Funso Aiyejina). *Ife Studies in African Literature and the Arts 2* (1984): 24-37.
- "Interview with Margaret Walker" (conducted jointly with Phaniel Egejuru). *Callaloo* 2.2 (1979): 29-35. Videotape in the archives of the Brockport Writers' Forum, SUNY College at Brockport, New York.
- "Interview with Gwendolyn Brooks" (conducted jointly with Phaniel Egejuru). Audio tape in the archives of the Brockport Writers' Forum, SUNY College at Brockport (1978).

REVIEWS

- Review of *Ghosts of Slavery: A Literary Archaeology of Black Women's Lives* by Jenny Sharpe (University of Minnesota Press, 2003). *African American Review* 40.4 (2006): 834-35. [Appeared in 2007.]
- Review of *I, The Supreme and Other Poems* by Funso Aiyejina (Ibadan, Nigeria: Kraft Books, 2004). *Crab Orchard Review* 11.1 (Winter/Spring 2006): 218-19.
- Review of *Resistance and Consciousness in Kenya and South Africa: Subalternity and Resistance in the Novels of Ngugi wa Thiong'o and Alex La Guma* by Anders Breidlid (Peter Lang, 2002). *Research in African Literatures* 35.1 (2004): 201-202.
- "Engaging Ngugi." Review essay discussing five recent critical works on Ngugi wa Thiong'o. *Research in African Literatures* 34.4 (2003): 115-128.
- Review of *The Legend of the Rockhills and Other Stories* by Funso Aiyejina, *The Remains of the Last Emperor* and *Bulletin From the Land of Living Ghosts* by Adebayo Williams. *Research in African Literatures* 34.3 (2003): 208-212.
- Review of *African American Satire: The Sacredly Profane Novel* by Darryl Dickson-Carr (U. of Missouri, 2001). *African American Review* 36.2 (Summer 2002): 329-330.
- Review of *25 New Nigerian Poets*, ed. Toyin Adewale (Berkeley: Ishmael Reed Publishing, 2000). *Crab Orchard Review* 7.1 (Fall/Winter 2001): 236-38.
- Review of *Sixty-Seven Poems for Downtrodden Saints* by Jack Micheline (San Francisco: FMSBW, 1999). *Crab Orchard Review* 7.1 (Fall/Winter 2001): 231-34.
- Review of *Whitman's Wild Children: Portraits of Twelve Poets* by Neeli Cherkovski (South Royalton, Vermont: Steerforth Press, 1999). *Crab Orchard Review* 7.1 (Fall/Winter 2001): 225-26.

- Review of *Shorter Views: Queer Thoughts and the Politics of the Paraliterary* by Samuel R. Delany (Wesleyan UP, 1999). *African American Review* 35.3 (Fall 2001): 11-12.
- Review of *The Memory of Birds in Times of Revolution* by Breyten Breytenbach (New York: Harcourt Brace, 1996). *Research in African Literatures* 32.1 (Spring 2001): 158-61.
- "Vogue." Review of *Right Here, Right Now* by Trey Ellis (New York: Simon & Schuster, 1999). *American Book Review* 21.1 (November/December 1999): 5, 8.
- "Race." Review of *White Lies and the Myths of Whiteness* by Maurice Berger (New York: Farrar Straus Giroux, 1999), *The Color of Our Future* by Farai Chideya (New York: Morrow, 1999), and *By the Color of Our Skin: The Illusion of Integration and the Reality of Race* by Leonard Steinhorn and Barbara Diggs-Brown (New York: Dutton, 1999). *The Washington Post Book World* (April 4, 1999): 8.
- Review of *Longer Views: Extended Essays* by Samuel R. Delany (Wesleyan UP, 1996). *African American Review* 33.1 (Spring 1999): 173-74.
- Review of *Conversations with Ishmael Reed*, ed. Bruce Dick and Amritjit Singh (Jackson: University of Mississippi Press, 1995). *MELUS* 22.4 (1998): 191-92.
- Review of *Dark Voices: W.E.B. DuBois and American Thought, 1888-1903* by Shamoan Zamir (University of Chicago, 1995). H-Net Reviews, December 1998. URL: <http://www.h-net.msu.edu/reviews/showrev.cgi?path=30234913404435>.
- "Shaping an African American Literary Canon." Review of *The Norton Anthology of African American Literature*, Henry Louis Gates, Jr. and Nellie McKay, general eds. (New York: Norton, 1997) and *Call and Response: The Riverside Anthology of the African American Literary Tradition*, Patricia Liggins Hill, general ed. (Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1998). *Postmodern Culture* (September 1998). URL: http://www.iath.virginia.edu/pmc/issue.998/9.1.r_fox.html.
- Review of *Ngugi and African Postcolonial Narrative: The Novel as Oral Narrative in Multigenre Performance* by F. Odun Balogun (Quebec: World Heritage Press, 1997). *Canadian Journal of African Studies* 32.1 (1998): 197-98.
- Review of *Kerouac: Kicks Joy Darkness* (RYKO RCD10329, 1997), a spoken word tribute with music. *Postmodern Culture* 7.3 (May 1997). URL: <http://www.iath.virginia.edu/pmc/issue.597/review-5.597.html>.
- "Embracing the Other." Review of *Love Across the Color Line: The Letters of Alice Hanley to Channing Lewis*, ed. Helen Lefkowitz Horowitz and Kathy Peiss (Amherst: University of Massachusetts Press, 1996). H-Net Reviews, May 1997. URL: <http://www.h-net.msu.edu/reviews/showrev.cgi?path=5276868636197>.
- Review of *The Gong and the Flute: African Literary Development and Celebration*, ed. Kalu Ogbaa (Greenwood, 1994). *Canadian Journal of African Studies* 30.2 (1996): 296-97.
- "Righteous Rites and Royal Ramblings." Review of *Divine Days* by Leon Forrest (Norton/Another Chicago Press, 1993). *MELUS* 20.4 (1996): 103-107.
- Review of *Invisibility Blues: From Pop to Theory* by Michele Wallace (Verso, 1990). *MELUS* 19.2 (1994): 133-138.
- Review of *The Theory of African Literature* by Chidi Amuta (Zed Press, 1989). *African Studies Review* 36.2 (1993): 120-21.

- Review of *The Empire Writes Back: Theory and Practice in Post-colonial Literature*, ed. Bill Ashcroft, Gareth Griffiths and Helen Tiffin (Routledge, 1989). *African Studies Review* 34.3 (1991): 113.
- Review of *Figures in Black* by Henry Louis Gates, Jr. (New York: Oxford, 1987). *Black American Literature Forum* 22.4 (1988): 841-47.
- "The Muses' Amanuensis." Review of *Secretary to the Spirits* by Ishmael Reed (NOK, 1978). *Ife Studies in African Literature and the Arts* 2 (1984): 82-86.
- "Other Worlds, Other Words." Review of *Yardbird Lives!*, ed. Ishmael Reed and Al Young (New York: Grove, 1978). *Okike* 20 (1981): 95-96.
- Review of *Poems of Black Africa*, ed. Wole Soyinka (New York: Hill and Wang, 1975). *African Literature Today* 11 (1980): 209-12.

RECENTLY COMPLETED WORK

BOOKS

Brain Damage: A Novel. 465 pages.

Mutation Word Box: Experimental Writings. 111 pages.

WORK IN PROGRESS

ESSAYS

- "Beatitude: A Memoir."
- "Narrating Nightland: Jack Kerouac's Book of Dreams and William S. Burroughs' *My Education: A Book of Dreams*."
- "Indo-Jazz Fusions, World Music, and The Aesthetics of Identity."

BOOKS

- *Archaeologies of Soul*. Essays on African American literature and culture.
- *Fear of a Black Syllabus: Fifty Years of Black Studies*.

CONFERENCE PAPERS

- "Claude McKay: Black Atlantic Wayfarer." Theorizing the Black/African Diaspora, Center for Black Diaspora, DePaul University, May 20, 2006.
- "India/Jazz Fusion(s)." Panel on "Radical Renegotiations: South Asians and African Americans," Modern Language Association annual conference, December 2001.
- "The American Novel and Multiculturalism: Texts, Contexts, and Conflicts." Inaugural address, founding national conference, India chapter of MELUS (Society for the Study of the Multi-ethnic Literature of the United States), American Studies Research Center, Hyderabad, India, October 8-9, 1998.
- "Diasporacentrism and Black Aural Texts." Conference on "The African Diaspora: African Origins and New World Self-fashionings," Binghamton University, April 11-13, 1996.
- "Untangling Ananse's Threads: Black Literary Texts and Their Cultural/Aesthetic Context." Panel on "Aesthetic Intertextuality," African Studies Association annual conference, November 1991.
- "Theory and Its Discontents." Panel on "African Literature and the Problems of Theory," African Literature Association annual conference, March 1991.
- "Ngugi wa Thiong'o, Resistance, and Otherness." Panel on "Theory and Third World Literature: Nobody's Other," Modern Language Association annual conference, December 1990.
- "The Untold Stories in Armah's *Why Are We So Blest?*" Panel on "New Approaches to New Literatures," Modern Language Association annual conference, December 1988.

- "Re/Vision and Resistance in Caribbean Women's Writing." Conference on Caribbean Literature and Culture, William Monroe Trotter Institute, University of Massachusetts, Boston, May 1988.
- "Africa and Africanisms in *Finnegans Wake*." Eighth International James Joyce Symposium, Dublin, Ireland, June 1982.
- "Literature and National Development: Proposals and Provocations." Third Annual Conference, Literary Society of Nigeria, Nsukka, February 1982.

SESSIONS CHAIRED/MODERATED

- Panel on "Afrofuturism," "A Dystopian Past, A Dystopian Future," 10th Annual Graduate Conference in Literature and Rhetoric/Composition, Southern Illinois University at Carbondale, March 31, 2017.
- Panels on "Multiculturalism" and "Science Fiction," "[in]Organics: Analog Studies in a Digital World," 6th Annual AEGIS Graduate Student Conference, Southern Illinois University at Carbondale, March 24, 2012.
- Group discussion of "Death and the King's Horseman," John A. Logan College, March 6, 2008.
- "Uncitable Bodies: Interrogating Hybridity via Time, Memory and Nation," MELUS conference, March 1999.
- "Aesthetic Intertextuality," African Studies Association conference, November 1991.
- "African Literature and the Problems of Theory," African Literature Association conference, March 1991.

LECTURES and PRESENTATIONS

- Lecture, "Claude McKay and the Africa Question." University of Puerto Rico, May 1, 2015.
- Presentation on Zora Heale Hurston's *Their Eyes Were Watching God* for a Harlem Renaissance Class, University of Puerto Rico, April 30, 2015.
- I participated in a poetry reading that preceded "Peculiar Requests for Peculiar Bodies: Black Lives Matter, [Trans]Gendered Violence, Disability, and Women in the 'Post-racial,' 'Post-sexist Present,'" a presentation by Jennifer Lisa Vest, Southern Illinois University at Carbondale, April 20, 2015.
- Talk on August Wilson's *Ma Rainey's Black Bottom*, Ms. Herrin-Titus' English classes, Carbondale Community High School, April 8, 2014.
- Talk on African American literature with Father Joseph Brown, Carbondale Public Library, February 18, 2014.
- "From Tigrity to Transcendence: The Conscience and Conscientiousness of Wole Soyinka," Africa Centre, London, England, July 28, 2012; Soyinka Hall, Freedom Square, Lagos, Nigeria, July 12, 2012.
- Talk on "Death and the King's Horseman," McLeod Theatre, SIUC, March 2, 2008.
- Response to keynote address by Biodun Jeyifo (Harvard University), "Muse and Mimesis: Wole Soyinka, Africa and the World," international symposium, SIUC, February 28, 2008.
- Talk on Claude McKay, Sigma Tau Delta (English Honor Society), SIUC, September 20, 2006.
- "Evaluating the African-American Literary Canon: The Case of Ted Joans." English Department Faculty Colloquium, February 24, 2003.

- "The Beat Generation." Seminar, American Center, United States Information Service, co-hosted by the Madras Chapter of the South India American Studies Network, Chennai, India, October 14, 1998.
- "The American Novel and Multiculturalism." Department of English, University of Madras, Chennai, India, October 14, 1998.
- "The American Novel and Multiculturalism." Department of English, Pondicherry University, Pondicherry, India, October 12, 1998.
- "The Beat Generation." Seminar, American Center, United States Information Service, New Delhi, India, October 6, 1998.
- "African American Canon Formation." Department of English, Jamia Millia Islamia University, New Delhi, India, October 6, 1998.
- "African American Canon Formation." Center for Linguistics and English, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, India, October 5, 1998.
- Talk on ethnopoetics, creative writing class, Southern Illinois University, April 24, 1998.
- "Allen Ginsberg: An Appreciation." American Studies Forum seminar, SIUC, September 4, 1997.
- "Multicultural Literature: A Rationale and Some Suggestions." Illinois Association of Teachers of English, Southern District Meeting, Herrin, IL, October 28, 1996.
- Participant in faculty fiction reading, SIUC, April 25, 1996.
- Talk on ethnopoetics, creative writing class, SIUC, April 19, 1996.
- Talk on ethnopoetics (African and African-American), creative writing class, Southern Illinois University at Carbondale, May 2, 1995.
- Participant in faculty-student fiction and poetry reading, Southern Illinois University at Carbondale, April 6, 1995.
- "The End of Whiteness." Public lecture, Suffolk University, Boston, March 21, 1995.
- Presentation on the significance of Black Studies, Black Studies Program, Suffolk University, Boston, March 20, 1995.
- Presentation on African novelist Ben Okri, University of Wisconsin-Parkside, November 22, 1993.
- Guest speaker, Nigerian Independence Day celebration, SIUC, October 1, 1993.
- Talk on Afrocentrism, Black American Studies class, SIUC, July 9, 1993.
- "What is Multiculturalism?" Talk sponsored by Phi Sigma Tau (Philosophy Honors Society), SIUC, April 2, 1993.
- Talk on Yoruba culture in the Diaspora, Yoruba Language and Culture class, Southern Illinois University at Carbondale, November 1992.
- "'Conjured by the Rooted Blues': History and Mystery in Contemporary African- American Fiction," Colloquium of the W.E.B. DuBois Institute for Afro-American Research, Harvard University, May 1992.
- "The Black Arts Movement: Origins and Influences," Dudley House, Harvard University, April 1992.
- "Teaching African-American Literature," Integrated Studies Faculty Seminar, Suffolk University, February 1992.
- Lecture on the writings of Samuel R. Delany, Amherst College, April 1991.

- Lecture on African-American literature, sponsored by Sigma Tau Delta (English Honors Society), Suffolk University, March 1991.
- Lecture on the intertextuality of black cultural productions, Reed College, January 1991.
- Workshop on "The Postcolonial Genre in African Literature," Middlesex Community College, November 1990.
- Seminar on African literature, Holy Cross College, April 1990.
- "Re/construction and Mis/representations," Black Consciousness Program, Suffolk University, April 1990.
- "The Changing Same: Black Cultures Across the Continuum," University of Maryland (College Park) and Amherst College, February 1990.
- "Reconstructing Blackness, Deconstructing Whiteness," Kansas State University and the University of Oklahoma, February 1989.
- "Black History, Black Struggle," Suffolk University, March 1988.
- Talk on the significance of Black Studies, University of Massachusetts at Amherst, March 1988.
- Seminar on the poetry of Derek Walcott, Amherst College, March 1988.
- "To Reveal and to Heal: African-American Literature and Criticism Since the Sixties," SUNY College at Brockport, October 1987.
- Presentation on African-American literature, West Virginia University, April 1986.
- "History as Dis-ease in the Poetry of Derek Walcott," English Department Lecture Series, Suffolk University, February 1986.

EDITORIAL BOARDS

- Member, Board of Advisory Editors, *African American Review*, 1989-present.
- Assistant Editor, *Lusophone Areas Studies Journal*, 1983-85.
- Founding member of editorial board of the international journal *Ife Studies in African Literature and the Arts*, University of Ife, Nigeria, 1978-85.

CONSULTANCIES

- Evaluation of a candidate for promotion to associate professor at Ohio University-Chillicothe (2017).
- Evaluation of a candidate for promotion to full professor at the American University of Beirut (2015).
- Evaluation of a candidate for promotion to full professor at Temple University (2015).
- Evaluation of a candidate for promotion to full professor at the City University of New York (2014).
- Evaluation of a research grant proposal for the University of Puerto Rico (2012).
- Evaluation of a candidate for reappointment at Clark University (2011).
- Evaluation of a candidate for promotion and tenure at DePaul University (2011).
- Evaluation of a candidate for promotion to associate professor at the City College of New York (2011).
- Evaluation of manuscript for *African Studies Review* (2009).
- Evaluation of the scholarship of an applicant for support from the National Research Foundation, South Africa (2007).

- Judge, Emerging Writers Short Story Competition, sponsored by the Illinois Center for the Book and the James Jones Literary Society, 2006, 2007.
- Evaluation of manuscript for *The International Fiction Review* (2005).
- External examiner, doctoral dissertation on Claude McKay, Andhra University, India (2003).
- Evaluation of manuscripts for *Research in African Literatures*.
- Evaluation of book manuscripts for Wesleyan University Press.
- External examiner, doctoral dissertation on John Fowles, University of Madras, India (2000).
- Evaluation of book proposal for State University of New York Press (1999).
- Evaluation of a candidate for tenure, Pennsylvania State University (1998).
- Evaluation of manuscript for *South Atlantic Quarterly* (1998).
- Evaluation of book manuscript for Stanford University Press (1998).
- Evaluation of book manuscript for the University Press of Mississippi (1998, 1997).
- Editorial advisor, *Crab Orchard Review* (1996-97).
- Evaluation of manuscripts for *MELUS*.
- Evaluation of manuscripts for *Callaloo*.
- Evaluation of a nominee for a MacArthur Fellowship for the MacArthur Foundation (1996).
- Evaluation of a candidate for reappointment, University of Colorado at Denver (1996).
- Screening of applications for the National Endowment for the Humanities (1995).
- Evaluation of book proposal for Routledge (1995).
- Screening of applications for the Fellowship Program of the American Council of Learned Societies.
- Evaluation of manuscripts for *African Studies Review*.
- Evaluation of manuscripts for *PMLA*.
- Consultant for Holt, Rinehart and Winston on African-American literature and multiculturalism, 1990-1992.
- Consultant for the Boston Athenaeum's planned exhibition on Boston Abolitionism, 1990-91.
- Consultant for the Boston Athenaeum's exhibition, "Blacks in Boston," 1987.
- SERVICE TO THE UNIVERSITY (Southern Illinois University)**
- Member, CoLA Council, 2016-. Chair: Spring 2018; Fall 2018-Spring 2019.
- Member, search committee for a new chair for Africana Studies, 2013.
- Authored the speech President Poshard used to introduce Nobel laureate Wole Soyinka prior to Professor Soyinka's public lecture, SIUC, February 28, 2008
- Member (from summer 2007), planning committee, "Muse and Mimesis: Wole Soyinka, Africa and the World," an international symposium held February 28-29, 2008
- Research Development and Administration Review Committee for Fine Arts and Humanities, 1999-2000.
- Outstanding Dissertation Committee, 1999-2002.
- Faculty Senate, 1998-2001.
 - Undergraduate Educational Policy Committee, Faculty Senate, 2000-2001.
 - Faculty Status and Welfare Committee, Faculty Senate, 1999-2000.
 - Governance Committee, Faculty Senate, 1998-99.
- Advisor to the Science Fiction and Fantasy Society, 1997-present.
- Historical Commemorations Committee, 1996-98.

- Advisor to the Nigerian Students' Association, 1995-99.
- Black History Month Committee, 1995-98.

DEPARTMENTAL SERVICE (Southern Illinois University)

• Graduate Studies Committee, current.

- Area head, Twentieth Century American Literature, 2003-2008 and current.
- Undergraduate Studies Committee, 2013-2014.
- Policy Committee, 1998-2002, 2013-2016.
- Acting Area Head, Twentieth Century American Literature, Fall 2012.
- Graduate Studies Committee, 2003-2005, 1997-98, 2014-
- Departmental Search Committees, 2002-2003, 1998-99, 1997-98.
- Merit and Tenure Review Committee, 2007, 2001, 1999.
- Departmental Grievance Committee, 1995, 2014.
- Joint Undergraduate and Graduate Studies Committee, 1992-95.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

- Host parent, Rotary International Youth Exchange Program, August-December 2015.
- Southern Illinois Racial Justice Coalition, 2014-present.
- Rotary International, 2014-present. Director of International Service, 2017-2019.
- Volunteer Parent, Unity Point School, 2005-2006.
- Presentation on Nigeria, St. Andrews School, Murphysboro, Illinois, February 18, 2003.
- Judge, Reading Rainbow Young Writers and Illustrators Awards Competition, 1996, 2007.
- "Drumtalk." Presentation on black music, Carbondale Community Arts in Celebration Festival, October 1, 1994.
- Presentation on African culture, Carbondale New School, December 10, 1992.
- President, Friends of the Boston African American National Historic Site, 1990-91.

OTHER RELEVANT INFORMATION AND ACTIVITIES

- At Southern Illinois University, I was a member of the Cultural Studies Group (an independent interdisciplinary seminar) and have been an occasional participant in the American Studies Forum.
- At Suffolk University (1985-91), I directed the Writers' Forum, was a member of the Cultural Diversity and Faculty Development committees, and a member of S.O.A.R. (Society Organized Against Racism).
- At the University of Ife, Nigeria (1978-85), I was one of the principal organizers of a series of creative arts programs whose participants included 1986 Nobel Laureate Wole Soyinka, the late Chinua Achebe, 1991 Booker Prize winner Ben Okri, and the late Okot p'Bitek. I also served as an advisor to the English Society's literary journal.