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CURRENT POSITION Associate Professor of English
North Carolina Central University

EDUCATION

Ph.D., English, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, **May, 1994**. Dissertation: “The Order of Beauty: Aesthetics in the Short Stories of Edith Wharton.” Director: Everett Emerson.

M.A., English, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, **August, 1988**. Thesis: “Everyone Knows the Writer is There’: Narrative Voice in the Later Novels of Margaret Drabble.” Director: C. Townsend Ludington, Jr.

B.A., English, University of New Orleans, **August, 1985**.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

➤ North Carolina Central University: **August, 1999 to present**

Courses taught: English 1110: English Composition I
English 1500: Techniques in the Critical Reading of Literature
English 3320: American Literature II
English 3310: American Literature I
English 1210: English Composition II
English 3400: Junior/Senior Seminar
English 3120: Advanced Composition
English 5110: Graduate Seminar in Language & Literature
English 4120: Twentieth-Century Novel
English 5605: African American Literature I
English 5740: Major Novels of the 20th Century

➤ Duke University: **August, 1998 – December, 1998**

Courses taught: University Writing Course: Workshop in Rhetoric

➤ Wake Forest University: Visiting Assistant Professor of English, **August, 1994-August, 1998**

Courses taught: English Composition
Writing Seminar: The 1930s in American Literature & Culture
Honors Seminar: Studies in American Literature
Introduction to American Writers
First Year Seminar: The American Short Story

➤ University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, **1988-1993**

Courses taught: Major American Authors
The American Novel

TEACHING INTERESTS

The American Short Story
Edith Wharton and Henry James
American Women's Political Poetry
Nineteenth- and Twentieth-Century American Literature
Nineteenth- and Twentieth-Century African American Literature
The Immigrant Experience in American Literature
American Women Novelists, 1860-1930
The 1930s in American Literature and Culture
Rhetoric & Composition

PUBLICATIONS

- Review of The Collected Poems of Muriel Rukeyser. Ed. Janet E. Kaufman and Anne F. Herzog. College Literature 33.2 (Spring 2006) 199-201.
- “Ernest J. Gaines.” The Greenwood Encyclopedia of Multiethnic American Literature. Ed. Emmanuel S. Nelson. 5 vols. Westport, CT: Greenwood, 2005. 780-83.
- “Randall Kenan.” The Greenwood Encyclopedia of Multiethnic American Literature. Ed. Emmanuel S. Nelson. 5 vols. Westport, CT: Greenwood, 2005. 1225-1227.
- “Percival Everett.” The Greenwood Encyclopedia of Multiethnic American Literature. Ed. Emmanuel S. Nelson. 5 vols. Westport, CT: Greenwood, 2005. 687-690.
- “The Architecture of the Short Story: Edith Wharton's Modernist Practice.” Edith Wharton Review XX.2 (Fall 2004): 17-23.
- “‘Just a Lady’: Gender and Power in To Kill a Mockingbird.” Women in Literature: Evaluating Fiction for Gender Bias. Ed. Ellen Silber and Jerilyn Fisher. Westport, CT: Greenwood, 2003.
- “‘An Identity Seemed to Leap Out Before Me’: Muriel Rukeyser's The Traces of Thomas Hariot.” “How Shall We Tell Each Other of the Poet?": Reflections on the Life and Writing of Muriel Rukeyser. Ed. Anne F. Herzog and Janet E. Kaufman. New York: St. Martin's, 1999. 241-253.
- “Muriel Rukeyser.” Contemporary Jewish-American Dramatists and Poets: A Bio-Critical Sourcebook. Ed. Joel Shatzky and Michael Taub. Westport, CT: Greenwood, 1999.
- “Making Fun of the Critics: Edith Wharton's Anticipation of the Postmodern Academic Romance.” New Directions in American Humor. Ed. David E. E. Sloane. Tuscaloosa and London: U of Alabama P, 1998. 151-59.
- “Josephine Herbst.” The Oxford Companion to Women's Writing in the United States. New York: Oxford UP, 1995. 387.

“Opening ‘The Gates’: Muriel Rukeyser and the Poetry of Witness.” Women’s Studies: An Interdisciplinary Journal 22 (1993): 297-308.

“‘True Legitimacy’: The Myth of the Foundling in Bleak House” Studies in the Novel XXII (Spring 1990): 1-9.

PRESENTATIONS

“Crafting Freedom Through Words: George Moses Horton, Frances Ellen Watkins Harper, and Charles W. Chesnutt.” Invited Presentation as Scholar/Consultant to The Thomas Day Education Project’s NEH Summer Institute, “Thomas Day and Elizabeth Keckly: Black Artisans, Entrepreneurs, and Artists in the Making of America 1800-1865.” Presented **July 19, 2007**, at UNC-Chapel Hill.

“Invalid Men: Illness as Metaphor in the Short Stories of Edith Wharton.” Presented **April 3, 2006**, at the European Association for American Studies Biennial Conference, “Conformism, Non-Conformism and Anti-Conformism in the Culture of the United States.” Nicosia, Cyprus.

“Behind the Scenes’ with Slave Narratives: The Example of Elizabeth Keckly.” Invited Presentation as Scholar/Consultant to The Thomas Day Education Project’s 2004, 2005, 2006, and 2007 NEH Summer Workshops and Institute, “Crafting Freedom: Black Artisans and Entrepreneurs in the Making of America.” Presented **July 14, 2007; June 24, 2006; July 15, 2006; June 18, 2005; June 25, 2005; July 9, 2005; June 19, 2004; June 26, 2004; July 17, 2004; and July 24, 2004.**

“Chesnutt and Faulkner: The Intertextual Mulatto.” Presented **November 7, 2003**, at North Carolina Central University’s conference, “Celebrating the Legacy of Charles W. Chesnutt: 21st Century Perspectives on Chesnutt and African American Literature.”

“A Wealth of Words, A Wealth of Writers: Some Little Known African American Writers & Journalists—Teaching Charles W. Chesnutt & Frances Ellen Watkins Harper.” Invited Presentation as Scholar/Consultant to The Thomas Day Education Project’s Dissemination Conference, “Let it Shine: Enhancing the Teaching of African American History and Culture at the Elementary and Middle Grade Levels.” Presented **June 25, 2003.**

Chair, “Performance Matters.” Presented **February 9, 2003**, at the Southern American Studies Association Conference. Florida State University, Tallahassee, Florida.

“Behold the Invisible!?: The Postmodern African American Novelist in Percival Everett’s Erasure.” Presented **November, 2002**, at North Carolina Central University’s conference, “African American Literature Since Ralph Ellison’s Invisible Man.”

“The Architecture of the Short Story: Edith Wharton’s Modernist Practice.” Presented **May, 2002**, at the American Literature Association Conference.

“What Shall We Do With All This Useless Beauty?: Spiritual Questing in the Wilderness.” Invited Presentation: Greek Lecture Series, Wake Forest University, **October, 1997.**

“Beyond Traditional Academic Discourse: Creativity in the Literature Class.” Challenges and Responses: Rethinking Key Issues in College Learning. Presented at Elon College, **September, 1997.**

Chair, “Piercing the Veil: Eroticism in 19th Century American Women’s Writing,” presented **May, 1997**, at the American Literature Association Conference.

“But I Could Not Compose Myself: Sexuality in the Short Stories of Elizabeth Stoddard,” presented **May, 1997**, at the American Literature Association Conference.

Chair, “Back-biting, In-fighting, and Downsizing: Literary Representations of Academia,” presented **March, 1997**, at the Popular Culture Association Conference.

“Poetry at the Forge Level’: The Making (and Faking) of a Poet in Carol Shields’ Swann,” presented **March, 1997**, at the Popular Culture Association Conference.

“Things That Are Worse Than Death’: Sharon Olds’ Poetry of Witness,” presented **October, 1996**, at the American Studies Association Conference.

“Morality, Tragedy, and the Aesthetics of Transgression in Edith Wharton’s Short Fiction,” presented **April, 1996**, at the Northeast Modern Language Association Conference.

“Illness as Metaphor in Jane Smiley’s ‘The Age of Grief,’” presented **March, 1996**, at the American Culture Association Conference.

“Male Madness and Writing in Edith Wharton’s ‘The Bolted Door,’” presented **April, 1995**, at the Popular Culture Association Conference.

“To Set the Darkness Echoing’: Seamus Heaney’s Contribution to the Twentieth Century Elegy,” presented **March, 1995**, at the Twentieth Century Literature Association Conference.

“Making Fun of the Critics: Edith Wharton’s Anticipation of the Postmodern Academic Romance,” presented **December, 1994**, at the American Humor Association Conference.

“A Failure of Will: Male Illness in the Short Stories of Edith Wharton,” invited presentation, **November, 1993**, to the American Association of University Women, Atlanta, Georgia.

“The Usurpation of Birth and the Containment of Female Sexuality: Fathers, Sons, and Male Identity in Percival Everett’s Cutting Lisa,” presented **March, 1992**, at the Twentieth Century Literature Conference.

HONORS, GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS

North Carolina Central University College of Arts & Sciences Outstanding Faculty Community Service Award, **April, 2006**.

North Carolina Central University Excellence in Teaching Award, **May, 2003**.

North Carolina Central University College of Arts & Sciences Outstanding Teaching and Service Award, **March, 2003.**

Who's Who Among American Teachers, **2002, 2003, and 2004.**

1997-1998 Wake Forest University Panhellenic Faculty Member of the Year, **May, 1998.**

Omicron Delta Kappa Honor Society, Wake Forest University, Inducted **April, 1998.**

The Reid-Doyle Prize for Excellence in Teaching, Wake Forest University, **January, 1998.**

Delta Delta Delta Professor of the Year, Wake Forest University, **January, 1998.**

NEH Summer Institute, "The 1930s: An Interdisciplinary Study," **July, 1995.**

American Dissertation Fellowship, American Association of University Women, **1993-94.**

Senior Fellowship, UNC Chapel Hill, **1993-94.**

Graduate and Professional Student Research Award, UNC Chapel Hill, **1993.**

On-Campus Dissertation Fellowship, UNC Chapel Hill, **1993.**

Teaching Fellowship, UNC Chapel Hill, **1992-93.**

Student Undergraduate Teaching Award, UNC Chapel Hill, **1992.**

Graduate School Limited Service Assistantship, UNC Chapel Hill, **1986-1988.**

RELATED PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Specialist Reader, Tulsa Studies in Women's Literature, **2007-present**

Secretary, The Apprend Foundation, **2006-present**

Scholar/Consultant, The Thomas Day Education Project, **2002-present.**

Book Reviewer, Raleigh News & Observer, **1988-1993.**

Editorial Assistant, Early American Literature, **1986-1988.**

Poetry Staff, The Carolina Quarterly, **1987-1988.**

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS & MEMBERSHIPS

American Literature Association

American Studies Association

Humanities Educators of North Carolina

Modern Language Association

NCTE

Edith Wharton Society