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Professor of English
University of South Florida St. Petersburg
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EDUCATION

Ph.D., May 1997, New York University, English and American Literature
M.A., May 1987, University of Memphis, English
B.A., August 1984, University of Alabama at Birmingham, English

POST-GRADUATE EDUCATION

National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Institute, 1998, Harvard University, 1998:
"Teaching the History of the Southern Civil Rights Movement," Directors: Henry Louis Gates, Jr.,
Waldo Martin, Jr., and Patricia Sullivan

Workshop: Teaching About Perpetrators: Ethics, Aesthetics, Politics. November 10-12, 2016.
Utrecht University. Director: Susanne C. Knittel. Sponsors: Perpetrator Studies Network and
Netherlands Organization for Scientific Research.

RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS

Literature of the Civil Rights Movement, Racial Violence and Historical Memory, African
American and Southern Literatures, 19th-21st Century American Literatures, Women's
Literature, Creative Non-Fiction

PUBLICATIONS: BOOKS

Birmingham Stories. A Birmingham native and civil rights movement scholar, I return to walk
my hometown streets. The resulting twelve essays look at multiple civil rights
intersections – literal and figurative, past and present. Manuscript in progress.

The Cambridge Companion to American Civil Rights Literature. Editor. New York and Cambridge,
UK: Cambridge University Press, 2015. Introductory essays to key themes, issues,
genres, and literary movements written by major scholars in Civil Rights Studies.
Reviewed in *Callaloo*, *Journal of Southern History*, *Journal of Popular Culture*.

Mary Turner and the Memory of Lynching. Athens: University of Georgia Press, 2011. Recipient
of the Society for the Study of Southern Literature's C. Hugh Holman Award Honorable
Mention. Reviewed in *American Literature*, *Southern Literary Journal*, *Callaloo*, *Studies in*

American Culture, Journal of African American History, Journal of American History, Journal of Southern History, Georgia Historical Quarterly, and H-Net Reviews.

The Civil Rights Reader: American Literature from Jim Crow to Racial Reconciliation. Editor, with Associate Editor Amy Schmidt. Athens: University of Georgia Press, 2009.

Teaching the American Civil Rights Movement: Freedom's Bittersweet Song. Co-editor, with Susan Hult Edwards, Houston Bryan Roberson, and Rhonda Y. Williams. New York: Routledge, 2002.

PUBLICATIONS: ARTICLES AND BOOK CHAPTERS

Introduction. *Mary Turner and the Lynching Rampage.* By Rachel Marie-Crane Williams. Graphic narrative under review with University of Georgia Press.

"Stay Woke: Teaching the Civil Rights Movement through Literature." *Understanding and Teaching the Civil Rights Movement.* Ed. Hasan Kwame Jeffries. University of Wisconsin Press, Forthcoming, 2017.

"*Stuck Rubber Baby* and the Intersections of Civil Rights Historical Memory." *Redrawing the Historical Past: History, Memory, and Multiethnic Graphic Narrative.* Ed. Martha J. Cutter and Cathy J. Schlund-Vials. University of Georgia Press, Forthcoming, 2017.

"Civil Rights Movement Fiction." *The Cambridge Companion to American Civil Rights Literature,* 2015. 85-103.

"Teaching 'Theresa: A Haytien Tale' in a General Education African American Literature Survey." Just Teach One: Early African American Print. [Common-Place](#). June 2015.

"Mary Turner's Blues." *African American Review* 44.1-2 (Spring-Summer 2011): 201-220.

"Mary Turner, Hidden Memory, and Narrative Possibility." *Gender and Lynching.* Ed. Evelyn Simien. New York: Palgrave-Macmillan, 2011. 15-35.

"The people . . . took exception to her remarks': Meta Warrick Fuller, Angelina Weld Grimké, and the Lynching of Mary Turner." *Mississippi Quarterly.* Special Issue on Lynching and American Culture. Eds. Amy Louise Wood and Susan V. Donaldson. 61 (Winter-Spring 2008): 113-142.

"Angelina Weld Grimké" and "Jean Toomer." *The Greenwood Encyclopedia of American Poetry.* Ed. Jeffrey Gray, et al. Westport, Ct: Greenwood Press, 2005. 648-651, 1603-1606.

"Scratching Out a Living As an Academic Couple." *Modern Language Studies* 35.1 (2005): 54-58.

"Recovery" and "Romantic Tradition." *Toni Morrison Encyclopedia.* Ed. Elizabeth Beaulieu. Westport, CT: Greenwood Press, 2003. 289-97

"Wading in Troubled Water: Teaching 'Legacies of the Civil Rights Movement' as Freshman Composition." *Teaching the Civil Rights Movement*, 2002. 55-66.

"Toni Morrison." *Contemporary American Women Writers: A Bio-Bibliographical Critical Sourcebook*. Ed. Laurie Champion and Rhonda Austin. Westport, CT: Greenwood Press, 2002. 252-258.

"Blinded By Whiteness: Flannery O'Connor and Race." *Flannery O'Connor Review* 1 (2002): 77-86.

"Carson McCullers." *American Women Writers 1900-1945: A Bio-Bibliographical Critical Sourcebook*. Ed. Laurie Champion. Westport, CT: Greenwood Press, 2000. 224-230.

"A Square Peg Meets a Round Hole: Carson McCullers As Southern Writer." *Carson McCullers Society Newsletter* 1.2 (1999): 2-5.

"Spike Lee's *4 Little Girls*: Remembering Birmingham." *The Distillery: Artistic Spirits of the South* 5.2 (1998): 56-62.

PUBLICATIONS: ESSAYS AND CREATIVE NONFICTION

"Kelly Ingram Park, Birmingham, Alabama." [Orion. The Place Where You Live](#). 2 May 2016. Web.

"Civil Rights Words as Action Then and Now." [FifteenEightyFour: Cambridge Blog](#). 15 June 2015. Web.

"Jody Suzanne Ford: A Transgender Warrior." [Weld: For Birmingham](#). 2 August 2012. Web.

"The Noose: A Symbol of Hatred." *Tampa Tribune*, 24 February 2008, Commentary: 1.

"Bobby Frank Cherry and the Sins of a City." *Chattahoochee Review* 23 (2003): 29-34.

"The Murderous Miss Buckley and Bobbie's Uncle Titty Carl." *Humanities in the South* 88 (2002): 6-11.

"*The Manifesta of Fredonia Woolf*." *Women Writers: An E-Journal*. 15 December 2001. Web.

"Silencing Voices." *Women Writers: An E-Journal*. 15 December 2000. Web.

PUBLICATIONS: REVIEWS AND REVIEW ESSAYS

It's Been Beautiful: Soul! and Black Power Television. By Gayle Wald. Photographs by Chester Higgins. Durham: Duke University Press, 2015. *Studies in American Culture*. Forthcoming, 2016.

A Voice That Could Stir an Army: Fannie Lou Hamer and the Rhetoric of the Black Freedom Movement. By Maegan Parker Brooks. Jackson: University Press of Mississippi, 2014. *Journal of American History* 102 (2015): 304.

The Florida Folklife Reader. Ed. Tina Bucuvalas. Jackson: University Press of Mississippi, 2012. *Florida Historical Quarterly* 92 (2013): 456-58.

The End of American Lynching. By Ashraf H.A. Rushdy. New Brunswick: Rutgers University Press, 2012. *Journal of American History* 100 (2013): 221-22.

Living with Lynching: African American Lynching Plays, Performance, and Citizenship, 1890-1930. By Koritha Mitchell. (The New Black Studies Series.) Urbana and Chicago: University of Illinois Press. 2011. *American Historical Review* 117 (2012): 1231-32.

Representing Segregation: Toward an Aesthetics of Living Jim Crow and Other Forms of Racial Division. Ed. Brian Norman and Piper Kendrix Williams. Albany: SUNY Press, 2010, and *Neo-Segregation Narratives: Jim Crow in Post Civil Rights American Literature.* Athens: University of Georgia Press, 2010. *MELUS: Journal of the Society for the Study of Multi-Ethnic Literature of the United States* 36.3 (2011): 212-215.

Emmett Till in Literary Memory and Imagination. Eds. Harriett Pollack and Christopher Metress. Baton Rouge: Louisiana State University Press, 2008. *South Atlantic Review* 73.3 (2008): 143-145.

"New Directions in Lynching Studies." *Southern Quarterly* 43.1 (2005). 140-148.

Understanding Toni Morrison's Beloved and Sula: Selected Essays and Criticism of the Works by the Nobel-Prize Winning Author. Ed. Solomon O. Iyasere and Marla W. Iyasere. *South Atlantic Review* 68.4 (2003): 98-99.

Flannery O'Connor: A Life. By Jean W. Cash. *Southern Quarterly.* 41.1 (2003): 14-16.

Revising Flannery O'Connor: Southern Literary Culture and the Problem of Female Authorship. By Katherine Hemple Prown. *South Atlantic Review.* 68.3 (2003): 129-131.

"New Directions in Civil Rights Movement Studies: A Review of Three Readers." *The Georgia Historical Quarterly* 85.2 (2001): 271-277.

The Southern State of Mind. Ed. Jan Nordby Gretlund. *South Atlantic Review* 65.4 (2000): 158-159.

Illumination and Night Glare: The Unfinished Autobiography of Carson McCullers. Ed. Carlos L. Dews. *Southern Quarterly* 38.2 (2000): 165-166.

Trouble in Mind: Black Southerners in the Age of Jim Crow. By Leon Litwack. *Southern Quarterly* 37.2 (1999): 176-177.

What Else But Love? The Ordeal of Race in Faulkner and Morrison. By Philip M. Weinstein. *Southern Quarterly* 35.4 (1997): 152-153.

PRESENTATIONS: INVITED TALKS

"Birmingham Stories: John Scott's *I Remember Birmingham* in Context." Museum of Fine Arts. St. Petersburg, FL 2 November 2015.

"Birmingham Stories: 'The History That's Buried and Forgotten.'" Mercer University. Macon, GA. 14 September 2015.

"Jim Crow Old and New." Association for the Study of African American Life and History. Dr. Carter G. Woodson African American Museum. St. Petersburg, FL. 25 April 2015.

"The Civil Rights Movement in the Literary Imagination." Nelson Poynter Library. University of South Florida St. Petersburg. 17 February 2015. St. Petersburg, FL.

"Black Studies: From San Francisco to Xi'an." Xi'an International Studies University. Xi'an, China. 6 November 2014.

"Literary Responses to Jim Crow." Xi'an International Studies University. Xi'an, China. 5 November 2014.

"U.S. Civil Rights Literature." Association for the Study of African American Life and History. Dr. Carter G. Woodson African American Museum. St. Petersburg, FL. 23 August 2014.

"Dark Memories in the Sunshine State: Racial Violence and Healing in Florida." St. Petersburg Museum of History. St. Petersburg, FL. 9 January 2014.

"Creative Responses to the Lynching of Mary Turner." Women's and Gender Studies Lecture Series. Valdosta State University. Valdosta, GA. 13 September 2012.

Mary Turner and the Memory of Lynching. St. Petersburg Times Festival of Reading. St. Petersburg, FL. 22 October 2011.

"The Making of *The Civil Rights Reader.*" Georgia Center for the Book. Decatur, GA. 18 February 2009.

"From Spirituals to Hip-Hop: The Roots of Spoken Word Poetry in African American Music and Literature." Studio@620. St. Petersburg, FL. 9 March 2005.

Respondent, "Florida Writes: A Literary Look at Florida Fiction." A Sunshine State of Mind. University of South Florida St. Petersburg. 17 October 2003.

"The Manifesta of Fredonia Woolf." Keynote Address. "Safe Places, Risky Spaces: Sixth Annual Women's Studies Conference. Valdosta State University. Valdosta, GA. 2 March 2001.

"The Infamous, Neglected, But Not Forgotten Story of Mary Turner." African American Studies Lecture Series. Valdosta, GA. 8 February 2001.

PRESENTATIONS: CONFERENCE PANELS

"The History That's Buried and Forgotten": Images of Birmingham and Civil Rights Consensus Narratives." Association for the Study of African American Life and History. Atlanta, GA. 27 September 2015.

"From Africa to Birmingham: The Art Gardens of Lonnie Holley and Joe Minter." American Literature Association. Boston, MA. 23 May 2015.

"*Stuck Rubber Baby* and the Intersections of Civil Rights Historical Memory." Modern Language Association. Vancouver, British Columbia. 8 January 2015.

"The Arts and Community Dialogue: The Case of Mary Turner." Alliance for Truth and Racial Reconciliation Gathering. Newnan, Georgia. 21 April 2012.

"The Struggle of Memory Against Forgetting: Creative Responses to the Lynching of Mary Turner." National Women's Studies Association Conference. Atlanta, GA. 15 November 2009.

"The 1918 Brooks-Lowndes Lynchings: A Geography Lesson." Association for the Study of Literature and the Environment. Spartanburg, SC. 15 June 2007.

"Editing an Anthology: *Literature and the American Civil Rights Movement*." With Amy Schmidt. Modern Language Association. Philadelphia, PA. 29 December 2006.

"The Struggle of Memory Against Forgetting: Anti-Lynching Activism and the Death of Mary Turner." Society for the Study of American Women Writers. Philadelphia, PA. 10 November 2006.

"Literary Responses to Lynching." (Session Organizer) Modern Language Association. Philadelphia, PA. 29 December 2004.

"Poetry, Lynching, and Redemption in Jean Toomer's 'Kabnis.'" Society for the Study of Southern Literature. Chapel Hill, NC. 27 March 2004.

"Another Wave of Terror: Lynching in Film and Literature." College English Association Conference. St. Petersburg, FL. 5 April 2003.

"Jean Toomer, Oscar Micheaux, and the Rhetoric of Lynching." Critical Moments: Remembering Community and Self." Emory University. Atlanta, GA. 28 March 2003.

"Marching Forward, Looking Back: The Civil Rights Fiction of Flannery O'Connor and Carson McCullers." Society for the Study of Southern Literature. Orlando, FL. 8 April 2000.

"The Third Wave in South Georgia." (Session Organizer) (Re)Presenting Women: Fifth Annual Women's Studies Conference. Valdosta State University. Valdosta, GA. 4 March 2000.

"A Not-So-Good-Enough Mother: Cultural Criticism in Nathaniel Hawthorne and Toni Morrison." American Women Writers and Classical Myth. University of Maryland. College Park, MD. 25 September 1999.

"A Square Peg Meets a Round Hole: Carson McCullers As Southern Writer." American Literature Association Conference. Baltimore, MD. 29 May 1999.

"The Civil Rights Movement in Writing and Literature Classes." American Cultural Studies: Theory, Practice, and Pedagogy. Thirteenth Annual Comparative Literature Symposium. University of Tulsa. Tulsa, OK. 26 February 1999.

"Silencing Voices." Women's Voices, Women's Silences: Third Annual Women's Studies Conference. Valdosta State University. Valdosta, GA. 5-7 March 1998.

"*Lone Star*: An American Romance." Race in Literature and Film: The Twenty-Third Annual Conference on Literature and Film. Florida State University. Tallahassee, FL. 30 January 1998.

PUBLIC HUMANITIES

Guest, Florida Matters: Fictional Florida. WUSF-FM. Host, Robin Sussingham. 19 July 2016.

Featured Reader, A Night of Protest and Poetry of Witness. Dr. Carter G. Woodson African American History Museum. St. Petersburg, FL. 24 July 2016.

"The Civil Rights Era." (Presentation) Teaching the American Literary Tradition. Humanities Texas Teacher Institute. El Paso, TX. 16 June 2016.

"The Civil Rights Era." (Presentation) Teaching the American Literary Tradition. Humanities Texas Teacher Institute. Austin, TX. 8 June 2016.

"Song for Viola." Featured Speaker. Wordier Than Thou: Prose Open Mic. St. Petersburg, FL. 19 August 2014.

Literary Salon/Creative Writing Certificate Launch. Coordinated with Thomas Hallock. University of South Florida St. Petersburg. 17 January 2012.

God's Trombones: A Celebration of James Weldon Johnson. Coordinated with Thomas Hallock. Funded by a \$2,000 grant from the Florida Humanities Council. Studio@620. St. Petersburg, FL. 16 February 2009.

"Teaching Florida Literature." (Presentation) Florida Humanities Council Summer Seminar for High School Teachers. St. Petersburg, FL. June 2008.

Wednesday Writers Series. Coordinated with Thomas Hallock. University of South Florida St. Petersburg. 2007-2008.

Jackfest! A Marathon Reading of Jack Kerouac's *On the Road*. Coordinated with Thomas Hallock. University of South Florida St. Petersburg. 19 October 2007.

ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

University of South Florida St. Petersburg, 2001-Present

Department of Verbal and Visual Arts: Professor of English (2014-Present), Associate Professor (2005-2014), Assistant Professor (2001-2005)

Courses: (Graduate) Research and Teaching American Literature, Research and Teaching African American Literature; (Undergraduate) American Literature 1860 to Present, Studies in American Literature and Culture: Civil Rights Movement Literature, Major American Authors: Toni Morrison and August Wilson, African American Literature, British and American Women Writers, Introduction to Literature, Introduction to the English Major, Literature of the Western World Since the Renaissance, Literature/Race/Ethnicity. Honors Seminar: Racial Violence and Historical Memory

University of Mississippi, 2005-2006

William Winter Institute for Racial Reconciliation: Scholar-in-Residence

Course: Civil Rights Movement Literature

Research: Gather material for *The Civil Rights Reader: American Literature from Jim Crow to Reconciliation*

Valdosta State University, 1997-2001

English Department: Assistant Professor (2000-2001); Instructor (1997-2000)

Women's and Gender Studies Program: Affiliate Faculty (1997-2001)

Courses: (Graduate) Race Relations in American Literature; (Undergraduate) The Civil Rights Movement and the Arts, The South in Film and Literature, Southern Women Writers, The Myths of Southern Womanhood, Multicultural America, American Literature Survey, World Literature I and III (classical and modern), Advanced Composition, Composition I and II, Introduction to Women's Studies, Feminist Theory

Drexel University, 1995-97

Humanities Division: Adjunct Assistant Professor

Courses: Introduction to Women's Studies, Introduction to Literature, Composition I and II

New York University, 1992-95

Expository Writing Program: Instructor (1993-1995)

Courses: Writing Workshop I and II

English Department: Teaching Assistant, Dr. Ilse Lind (1992)

Course: Faulkner and Hemingway

HONORS AND AWARDS

Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Research and Creative Activity. University of South Florida St. Petersburg, 2013.

Distance Learning Course Development Grant, University of South Florida St. Petersburg, 2013: \$14,000 to develop Distance Learning Courses.

Society for the Study of Southern Literature, C. Hugh Holman Award Honorable Mention, 2012: *Mary Turner and the Memory of Lynching*.

Creative Scholarship Grant, University of South Florida, 2012-13: \$10,000 for research, *Birmingham Stories*.

Virginia Foundation for the Humanities Summer Fellowship. 2006: \$2000 for research, *Mary Turner and the Memory of Lynching*.

VIVA Award for Excellence in Disability, Multicultural or Student Services. University of South Florida St. Petersburg. 20 April 2005.

New Researcher Grant, University of South Florida, 2003: \$7,000 for research, *Mary Turner and the Memory of Lynching*.

Excellence in Service Award. African American Studies Department. Valdosta State University. 8 February 2001.

Faculty Research Grant, Valdosta State University, 2000: \$3,000 for research, *Mary Turner and the Memory of Lynching*.

ACADEMIC AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

Professional and Civic Engagement

School Advisory Council, Lakewood High School, St. Petersburg, FL (2015-Present)

Editorial Board, *Studies in American Culture* (2015-Present)

Charter Member, St. Petersburg Chapter, Association for the Study of African American Life and History (ASALH, 2014-Present)

Advisory Board, Mary Turner Project (2009-2014)

Advisory Board, Keep St. Pete Lit (2013)

Advisory Board, Blue Scarf Collective Performance Group (2013)

Humanities Scholar, *Who Speaks for Birmingham* Companion Film. Alabama Humanities Foundation Grant. PI: Lee Ann Reynolds (2013)

Grant Reviewer: Florida Humanities Council (2008), Virginia Foundation for the Humanities (2012)

Peer Reviewer, Articles: (2014-Present): *Journal of American History*, *Studies in American Culture*; (2001-2013) *African American Review*, *MELUS*, *Southern Quarterly*, *South Atlantic Review*

Peer Reviewer, Books (2010-Present): Cambridge University Press, University of Georgia Press

College and University

USFSP Tenure and Promotion Committee (2014-Present, Chair 2014-2015)

Member, USFSP Budget Committee (2013-Present)

Alternate Member, CAS Tenure and Promotion Committee (2009-2014)

Member, CAS Ad Hoc Tenure and Promotion Task Force (2011-2012)

Member, USF Tampa Women's and Gender Studies Advisory Board (2009-2012)

Member, CAS Faculty Council (2003-2005, 2011-2012)

Member, CAS General Education Committee (2006-2007)
Member, CAS Academic Programs Committee (2003-2005)
Faculty Advisor, Sigma Tau Delta English Honors Society (2014-2015)
Faculty Advisor, *HerCampus* Magazine (2010-2013)
Faculty Advisor, Students for Social Justice, 2006-2008
Faculty Co-Advisor (with Ruth Whitney and Diane McKinstry), Campus Women's Collective (2003-2005)

Department

Vice-Chair, Department (2009-2014; Chair, 2007-2008)
Program Coordinator, Literature and Cultural Studies (2009-2015, 2003-2004)
Member, Literature Curriculum and Assessment Committee (2009-2015)
Tenure and Promotion Committee (Member, 2009-2010; Chair, 2010-2013)
Annual Review Committee (Member, 2008-2009; Chair, 2009-2011)
Chair, Assessment Committee, (2003-2005)

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Modern Language Association
National Women's Studies Association
Society for the Study of Southern Literature
Society for the Study of American Women Writers