

GENEVA SMITHERMAN

University Distinguished Professor Emerita, Department of English; Executive Committee member and Co-Founder, African American and African Studies; Founding Director (1990) and current Advisory Board member, My Brother's Keeper Program, Michigan State University, East Lansing MI 48824, U.S.A. (smither4@msu.edu).

EDUCATION: Ph.D., English, University of Michigan, specialization in sociolinguistics and education; B.A., M.A., concentrations in English and Latin, Wayne State University.

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION: African American Language and Culture; Language and Education; Language Policy and Planning in South Africa.

CERTIFICATION: Michigan Secondary Permanent Teaching Certificate.

CURRENT WORK, RECENT PUBLICATIONS AND REPRINTS:

"African American Language and Education: History and Controversy in the Twentieth Century," *The Oxford Handbook of African American Language*, editor, Sonja Lanehart, Oxford University Press, 2015.

"Malcolm X: Master of Signifyin," *Malcolm X's Michigan World View: An Exemplar for Contemporary Black Studies*, editors, Rita Kiki Edozie and Curtis Stokes, Michigan State University Press, 2015.

"'The Blacker the Berry, the Sweeter the Juice': African American Student Writers and the NAEP," reprinted in *Landmark Essays On Speech and Writing*, editor, Peter Elbow, Routledge, 2015.

Foreword, *Students' Right to Their Own Language: A Critical Sourcebook*, editors Staci Perryman-Clark, David Kirkland and Austin Jackson, Bedford/St. Martins, 2015.

Foreword, *The Mirage of Days Old*, poetry by Shingi Mavima, New Jersey: Sugar Run Publishing, 2015.

Articulate While Black: Barack Obama, Language, and Race in the U.S., co-author, Dr. H. Samy Alim, Oxford University Press, 2012.

"Obama's English" (co-author, Dr. H. Samy Alim), *New York Times*, September 9, 2012.

"'The Power of Language and the Language of Power': Thoughts on the work of South African Linguist-Revolutionary Dr. Neville Alexander" (under revision for publication).

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Language and Politics in the “New” South Africa (in-progress).

Memoirs From a Daughter of the Hood (in-progress).

Developed/teaching on-line/hybrid course in African American Language for African American and African Studies Program, Michigan State University (launched, Fall, 2013).

PREVIOUS POSITIONS (partial listing):

University Distinguished Professor and Professor, English, Michigan State University, 1989-January 1, 2012.

Co-Founder, Executive Committee Member, and Core Faculty, African American and African Studies, Michigan State University, 2002-2011.

Founder (1990), Director and Co-Director, My Brother’s Keeper Program, middle school mentoring program, in partnership with Detroit Public Schools’s Malcolm X Academy (since 2010, Paul Robeson Malcolm X Academy).

Director, African American Language and Literacy Program, Michigan State University, 1989-2011.

Faculty mentoring in language education research, in partnership with the Department of English, North-West University-Mafikeng, South Africa, 1996-2009.

Acting Director, African American and African Studies, Michigan State University, 2009-10.

Interim Associate Dean for Curriculum, College of Liberal Arts, Wayne State University (1988). Responsible for eight departments, high school recruitment, affirmative action, college conferences and programs.

Professor & Basic Course Director, Department of Communication, Wayne State University (1979-89). Trained and supervised teaching assistants and part-time instructors.

Director, Associate Director, Senior Research Associate, and Director of Research, Center for Black Studies, Wayne State University (1974-89). Research development activity resulted in the Center for Black Studies receiving several small policy research grants (e.g., survey of the Black elderly) and a larger grant for research on heroin prevalence in Michigan.

Director, Linguistics Program, Wayne State University (1979-81).

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Lecturer, AfroAmerican Studies Department, Harvard University (1971-73). Taught courses in African American Literature, Black Communication and African American Culture.

Curriculum consultant and Instructor, English, Wayne County Community College (1969-71).

Adjunct Professor, English, University of Michigan-Ann Arbor, 1971.

Substitute teacher, K-12, Detroit Public Schools (1966).

Instructor, Freshman English, Eastern Michigan University (1966).

Teacher, English and Latin, Detroit Public Schools (1960-65).

VISITING PROFESSORSHIPS:

“African American Voices,” Pennsylvania State University Summer Seminar in Theory and Culture, June, 1994.

Pan African Studies and English, California State University-Northridge, Winter, 1990.

Institute for African Studies, Oxford University, Summer 1989.

Martin Luther King-Cesar Chavez-Rosa Parks Visiting Professor, Michigan State University, Winter, 1989.

Institute of African Studies, University of Ghana-Legon, 1980.

RESEARCH AND SERVICE GRANTS (partial listing):

MSU Arts and Letters Dean’s Discretionary Grant, \$3,500, Writing Assessment, Malcolm X Academy, Grades 6-8, 2006-08.

Gannett Foundation, \$5,000, for “My Brother’s Keeper,” 2008.

Detroit Newspapers and Knight Ridder, \$10,000 for “My Brother’s Keeper,” 2002.

The Spencer Foundation, \$130,930 for “Michigan State University Research Institute for University of North-West Faculty, Mahikeng, South Africa” (in collaboration with Dr. Susan Gass); MSU in-kind, \$100,000, 2001-2003.

MSU Intramural Research Grant, \$14,300, for “Ebonics on the Internet: Public Responses to the Issue,” 1999.

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MSU International Studies Programs and College of Arts and Letters, \$8,900, for South African Faculty Research Seminar, 1998.

Hudson's (Circle of Giving Program), 2000-2001, \$7,500; 1997-99, \$15,000, for "My Brother's Keeper." [Proposals submitted on behalf of Detroit's Malcolm X Academy]

National Council of Teachers of English Research Foundation, 1996-98, \$8,800, for "Language Knowledge and Awareness Survey." [Proposal submitted on behalf of the Language Policy Committee of the Conference on College Composition and Communication]

Detroit Public Schools Malcolm X Academy, "My Brother's Keeper," 1992-97, \$12,950.

Pistons-Palace Foundation, "My Brother's Keeper," 1993-95, \$20,000.

Detroit Public Schools, Malcolm X Academy Teacher and Parent Training Grant, 1993-95, \$10,000.

Venture Compact Grant, "My Brother's Keeper," 1992, \$7,400.

Office of the Provost, Michigan State University, start-up grant for "My Brother's Keeper," 1990-93, \$60,000.

Detroit Public Schools, Woodward Elementary School, "My Brother's Keeper," 1990-92, \$19,600.

"Structure and Discourse in African American Student Essays from the National Assessment of Educational Progress," National Council of Teachers of English Research Foundation, 1989-91, \$17,000; 1981-82, \$6,000.

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, 1981-82, \$80,000 for Demonstration project on Black child abuse and neglect (in collaboration with Dr. George N'Namdi).

Combined grant, 1980, Rockefeller Foundation, \$20,000, New Detroit, Incorporated, \$5,000, and Wayne County Community College, \$2,500, to convene national symposium on the implications of the King ("Black English") decision and publish results.

PUBLICATIONS:

Books/Monographs

Articulate While Black: Barack Obama, Language, and Race in the U.S., co-author, Dr. H. Samy Alim. Oxford University Press, October, 2012.

Word from the Mother: Language and African Americans. London & New York: Routledge, 2006.

Language Diversity in the Classroom: From Intention to Practice, co-editor, Dr. Victor Villanueva; author, one chapter. Carbondale: Southern Illinois University Press, 2003.

Black Linguistics: Language, Society and Politics in Africa and the Americas, co-editors, Drs. Sinfrey Makoni, Arnetha Ball and Arthur Spears. London & New York: Routledge, 2003.

Talkin That Talk: Language, Culture and Education in African America. London & New York: Routledge, 2000. [Recipient of National Council of Teachers of English 2001 David H. Russell Research Award for book. Reviews include "Off the Books," in Juice (German journal), November 2000 and Journal of Multilingual & Multicultural Development, Vol 22: 5, 2001.]

Black Talk: Words and Phrases from the Hood to the Amen Corner. Boston & New York: Houghton Mifflin, 1994.

Black Talk: Words and Phrases from the Hood to the Amen Corner. Boston & New York: Houghton Mifflin, 2000 (revision of 1994 edition, includes 350 new entries and new introduction).

Educating African American Males: Detroit's Malcolm X Academy Solution, co-author, Dr. Clifford Watson. Chicago: Third World Press, 1996.

African American Women Speak Out on Anita Hill-Clarence Thomas, editor and author, one chapter. Detroit: Wayne State University Press, 1995.

Strategies for Educating African American Males: the Detroit Model, co-authors, Drs. Clifford Watson and Angeletta Gourdine. Detroit Public Schools, 1992.

Improving Self-Concept for At-Risk Black Students, With Emphasis on Saving the Black Male, editor. Detroit Public Schools, 1990.

"And Ain't I A Woman?": African American Women and Affirmative Action (special issue of Sex Roles), co-editor, Dr. Dalmis Taylor, 1989.

Discourse and Discrimination, co-editor, Dr. Teun van Dijk; author, one chapter. Detroit: Wayne State University Press, 1988.

Talkin and Testifyin: The Language of Black America. Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1977. Revised, reissued, Wayne State University Press, 1986.

Black English and the Education of Black Children and Youth: Proceedings of the National Invitational Symposium on the King Decision (February 21-23, 1980). Edited, with an introduction. Detroit: Center for Black Studies, Wayne State University, 1981.

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Black Language and Culture: Sounds of Soul. New York: Harper and Row, 1975.

Chapters in Books

“CCCC’s Role in the Struggle for Language Rights,” “Students’ Right to Their Own Language: A Retrospective,” “African American Student Writers in the NAEP, 1969-88/89,” and “The Blacker the Berry, the Sweeter the Juice,” reprinted in Students’ Right to Their Own Language: A Critical Sourcebook, eds., Drs. Staci Perryman-Clark, David Kirkland and Austin Jackson. Boston & New York: Bedford/St. Martin’s, 2015.

“African American Language and Education: How Far Have We Come?” co-author, Minnie Quartey-Annan, in Contours of English, eds., Drs. Anne Curzan and Michael Adams. Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press, 2011.

“ ‘It’s been a long time comin, but our change done come,’ ” in The Speech: Race and Barack Obama’s “A More Perfect Union,” ed., Dr. T. Denean Sharpley-Whiting. London: Bloomsbury, 2009.

“An Insider’s View of African American Language Policies and Pedagogies,” in Affirming Students’ Right to Their Own Language: Bridging Language Policies and Pedagogical Practices, eds., Drs. Jerrie Scott, Dolores Straker and Laurie Katz. London: Routledge, 2008.

Afterword, Talkin Black Talk: Language, Education, and Social Change, eds., Drs. H. Samy Alim and John Baugh. New York & London: Teachers College Press Columbia University, 2007.

“African American Ways of Talking: So Good They Bad,” in The Midwest: An Interpretive Encyclopedia, eds., R. Sisson, *et. al.*, Section Editor for “Language,” and Dennis R. Preston. Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 2006.

Foreword, Roc the Mic Right: The Language of Hip Hop Culture, Dr. H. Samy Alim. London & New York: Routledge, 2006.

“Black Language and the Education of Black Children: One Mo Once,” in Ebonics: The Urban Education Debate, 2nd Edition, eds., Drs. J. David Ramirez, *et. al.* Clevedon, Buffalo, Toronto: Multilingual Matters LTD, 2005.

“Toward Educational Linguistics for the First World,” in The Hope and the Legacy: The Past, Present, and Future of “Students’ Right to Their Own Language,” eds., Drs. Patrick Bruch and Richard Marback. Cresskill, NJ: Hampton Press, Inc., 2005. [Reprint of 1979 article originally published in *College English*.]

Smitherman

“Meditations on Language, Pedagogy, and A Life of Struggle,” in Rhetoric and Ethnicity, eds., Drs. Keith Gilyard and Vorris Nunley. Portsmouth, NH: Boynton/Cook Heinemann, 2004.

“The Historical Struggle for Language Rights in CCCC,” in Language Diversity in the Classroom: From Intention to Practice, eds., Drs. Smitherman and Villanueva. Carbondale: Southern Illinois University Press, 2003. [Revised version of 1999 article]

Foreword, African American Literacies, Dr. Elaine Richardson. London & New York: Routledge, 2003.

“Toward a National Public Policy on Language,” in The Skin That We Speak, eds., Drs. L. Delpit and J. Dowdy. New York: The New Press, 2002. [Reprint of 1987 article]

Foreword, Centering Ourselves: African American Feminist & Womanist Studies of Discourse, eds., Drs. Marsha Houston & Olga I. Davis. Cresskill, NJ: Hampton Press, 2002.

“‘Black people tend to talk ebonics’: Race and Curricular Diversity in Higher Education,” co-author, Dr. Austin Jackson, in Strategies for Teaching First-Year Composition, eds., Dr. Duane Roen, *et.al.* Urbana: National Council of Teachers of English, 2002.

Foreword, Sociocultural and Historical Contexts of African American English, ed., Dr. Sonja L. Lanehart. Amsterdam and Philadelphia: John Benjamins, 2001.

“‘They Done Taken My Blues and Gone’: Black Talk Crosses Over,” reprinted from Black Talk (1994), in Exchanges, eds., Drs. Ted Lardner and Todd Lundberg. New York: Addison-Wesley/Longman, 2001.

“A Commentary On Ebonics: From a Ghetto Lady Turned Critical Linguist,” in Ebonics and Language Education, ed., Dr. Clinton Crawford. New York and London: Sankofa World Publishers, 2001.

“Language and Democracy in the United States of America and South Africa,” in Language and Institutions in Africa, eds., Drs. Sifree B. Makoni and Nkonko M. Kamwangamalu. Cape Town: Centre for Advanced Studies of African Society, 2000. [Revised version published in Language Ideologies: Critical Perspectives on the Official English Movement (Volume 2: History, Theory, and Policy), ed. Dr. Roseann Duenas Gonzalez. National Council of Teachers of English and Lawrence Erlbaum Associates, 2001.]

Foreword, Spoken Soul, Drs. John and Russell Rickford. New York: John Wiley & Sons, 2000.

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“African Americans, Ebonics and U.S. Language Planning-Policy,” in Comparative Perspectives on Language and Literacy, ed., Dr. Leslie Limage. Dakar, Senegal: UNESCO, 1999.

“Language Policy and Classroom Practices,” in Making the Connection: Language and Academic Achievement Among African American Students, eds., Drs. Carolyn Temple Adger, Donna Christian and Orlando Taylor. Washington, D.C.: Center for Applied Linguistics and Delta Systems Co., Inc., 1999.

“Word from the Hood: The Lexicon of African American Vernacular English,” in The Structure of African American English, eds., Drs. Salikoko S. Mufwene, John R. Rickford, Guy Bailey, and John Baugh. New York: Routledge, 1998.

“From ‘Hujambo’ to ‘Molo’: Study of and Interest in African Languages Among African Americans,” in Between Distinction & Extinction: The Harmonisation and Standardisation of African Languages, ed. Dr/ Kwesi Kwaa Prah. Johannesburg: University of Witwatersrand, 1998.

“‘What Go Round Come Round’: King in Perspective,” revised version of 1981 article, reprinted in The Real Ebonics Debate: Power, Language, and the Education of African American Children, eds., Drs. Theresa Perry and Lisa Delpit. Boston: Beacon Press, 1998

“Black English/Ebonics: What it Be Like?” in The Real Ebonics Debate: Power, Language, and the Education of African American Children, eds. Drs. Theresa Perry and Lisa Delpit. Boston: Beacon Press, 1998.

“Black Women’s Language,” co-author, Dr. Denise Troutman, in The Reader’s Companion to U.S. Women’s History, eds. Wilma Mankiller, Gwendolyn Mink, Marysa Navarro, Barbara Smith, and Gloria Steinem. Boston & New York: Houghton Mifflin, 1998.

Introduction to Black Talk (1994 edition), reprinted in African American Literature: An Anthology (Second Edition), eds., Drs. Demetrice A. Worley and Jesse Perry, Jr. Lincolnwood, IL: NTC Publishing Group, 1998.

“From African to African American” (from Black Talk, 1994 edition), reprinted in About Language: A Reader for Writers, eds., William H. Roberts and Gregoire Turgeon. Boston & New York: Houghton Mifflin, 1998.

“African American Language,” in Dictionary of Multicultural Education. Phoenix: Oryx Press, 1997.

“Discourse, Ethnicity, Culture and Racism,” co-authors, Drs. Teun A. van Dijk, Stella Ting-Toomey and Denise Troutman, in Discourse as Social Interaction, ed., Dr. Teun A. van Dijk. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage, 1997.

“Forms of Address,” co-author, Dr. Gloria Randle, in Oxford Companion to African American Literature, eds., Drs. William L. Andrews, Frances Smith Foster and Trudier Harris. New York: Oxford University Press, 1997.

“A Womanist Looks at the Million Man March,” in Million Man March: A Commemorative Anthology, eds., Haki Madhubuti and Maulana Karenga. Chicago: Third World Press, 1996.

“The Hit and the Miss: The African American Art of the Pickup Line,” co-author, Dr. Gloria Randle, in You’re So Fine, I’d Drink a Tub of Your Bathwater, Stephan Dweck and Monteria Ivey. New York: Hyperion, 1996.

“Testifyin, Sermonizin, and Signifyin: Anita Hill, Clarence Thomas, and the African American Verbal Tradition,” in African American Women Speak Out on Anita Hill-Clarence Thomas, ed., Dr. Geneva Smitherman. Detroit: Wayne State University Press, 1995.

“‘If I’m Lyin, I’m Flyin’: An Introduction to the Art of the Snap,” in Double Snaps, J. Percelay, S. Dweck, and M. Ivey. New York: Morrow and Company, 1995.

“Nonstandard English,” in The Oxford Companion To Women’s Writing in the United States, eds., Drs. Cathy N. Davidson and Linda Wagner-Martin. New York: Oxford University Press, 1995.

“‘The Blacker the Berry, the Sweeter the Juice’: African American Student Writers and the National Assessment of Educational Progress,” in The Need for Story: Cultural Diversity in Classroom and Community, eds., Drs. Anne Haas Dyson and Celia Genishi. Urbana: National Council of Teachers of English, 1994.

“Juvenile Justice: Multicultural Issues,” co-author, Dr. Charles Corley, in Multicultural Perspectives in Criminal Justice and Criminology, eds., Drs. James E. Hendricks and Bryan Byers. Springfield: Charles C. Thomas Publishers, 1994.

“Language, Dialects and the Fourth of July” in Why Don’t You Talk Right?, ed. Dr. Aprele Eliot. Kendall Hunt, 1992.

“‘What is Africa to Me?’: Language, Ideology and African American,” in African American Communications: A Reader in Traditional and Contemporary Studies, ed., Dr. James W. Ward. Kendall Hunt, 1993.

“The ‘Miseducation of the Negro’--and You Too,” in Not Only English: Affirming America’s Multilingual Heritage, ed., Dr. Harvey Daniels. Urbana: National Council of Teachers of English, 1990.

Smitherman

“‘How I Got Over’: Communication Dynamics in the Black Community,” co-author, Dr. Jack L. Daniel, in Cultural Communication and Intercultural Contact, ed., Dr. Donald Carbaugh. Hillsdale, NJ: Lawrence Erlbaum Associates, 1989. [Reprint of 1976 article]

“Discriminatory Discourse on Afro-American Speech” in Discourse and Discrimination, eds., Drs. Geneva Smitherman-Donaldson and Teun van Dijk. Detroit: Wayne State University Press, 1988.

“Up Side the Wall: The AfroAmerican Mural Movement,” co-author, Dr. Jeff R. Donaldson, in The People’s Art: Black Murals, 1967-78, ed., I Burnham. Philadelphia: AfroAmerican Historical and Cultural Museum, 1986.

“The Contemporary Merger of Linguistics and the Law: Black Language as Power,” in Language and Power, eds., Drs. C. Kramarae and M. Schulz. Beverly Hills, CA: Sage, 1984.

“‘What Go Round Come Round’: King in Perspective,” in Tapping Potential: English and Language Arts for the Black Learner, eds., Dr. Charlotte Brooks, *et.al.* Urbana: National Council of Teachers of English, 1985. [Reprinted from the Harvard Educational Review, 1981]

“Language Attitudes and Self-Fulfilling Prophecies in the Elementary School,” co-author, Dr. Jerrie Scott, in The English Language Today, ed. Dr. S. Greenbaum. Oxford: Pergamon Press, 1984.

“White English in Blackface, or Who Do I Be?” in The State of the Language, eds., Drs. L. Michaels and C. Ricks. Berkeley: University of California, 1980. [Reprinted from Black Scholar, May-June, 1973; article highlighted in reviews of The State of the Language in London Times and New York Times]

“Soul ‘N Style,” monthly columns from English Journal, reprinted as a chapter in Alternatives in Teaching English: Essays on the Future of the Profession, ed., Dr. Stephen Judy. New York: Hayden Book Company, 1979.

“Linguistic Diversity in the Classroom,” in The Cultural Revolution in Foreign Language Teaching, ed., Dr. R. Lafayette. Skokie, IL: National Textbook Company, 1975.

“Black Power is Black Language,” in Black Culture: Reading and Writing Black, ed., Dr. Gloria Simmons. New York: Holt, Rinehart and Winston, 1972. [Adapted from 1968 speech at Black Power Rally, Detroit]

Introduction, Down Nigger Paved Streets, William A. Thigpen, Jr. Detroit: Broadside Press, 1972.

Articles

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“Obama’s English,” co-author, Dr. H. Samy Alim, New York Times, September 9, 2012.

“Handlin Our (Unfinished) Bidness,” Council Chronicle, National Council of Teachers of English, September, 2012.

“The Right (Write) Start: African American Language and the Discourse of Sounding Right,” co-author, Dr. Anne Haas Dyson, *Teachers College Record*, on-line, 2008; in journal, April, 2009.

“From “The Lower Economic”: Three Young Brothas and an Old School Womanist Respond to Dr. Bill Cosby,” co-authors, Drs. David Kirkland, Jefferey Robinson and Austin Jackson, The Black Scholar, Vol. 34, No. 4, Winter, 2004.

“Language and African Americans: Movin On Up a Lil Higher,” Journal of English Linguistics (Special Issue: African American English), September, 2004.

“The Language of Affirmative Action: History, Public Policy and Liberalism,” co-authors, Drs. Curtis Stokes and Bill E. Lawson, The Black Scholar, Special Issue, “Affirmative Action: The Rulings on Admissions Policy at the University of Michigan, June 16, 2003,” Vol. 33, No. 3-4, Fall/Winter, 2003.

“The Shot Heard from Ann Arbor: Language Research and Public Policy in African America,” co-author, Dr. John Baugh, The Howard Journal of Communications, March, 2002.

“Leroy, Big D, and Big Daddy Speakin Ebonics on the Internet,” co-authors, Drs. David Kirkland and Austin Jackson, American Language Review, March/April, 2001.

“CCCC’s Role in the Struggle for Language Rights,” College Composition and Communication (Fiftieth Anniversary Issue), February, 1999. [Reprinted in Students’ Right to Their Own Language: A Critical Sourcebook, 2015; revised version published as chapter in Smitherman & Villanueva, Language Diversity: From Intention To Practice, 2003]

“Ebonics and TESOL,” TESOL Quarterly, Spring, 1998; Spring, 1999.

“Ebonics, *King*, and Oakland: Some Folk Don’t Believe Fat Meat is Greasy,” Journal of English Linguistics, Special Issue on Ebonics, June, 1998.

“‘The Chain Remain The Same’: Communicative Practices in the Hip Hop Nation,” Journal of Black Studies, September, 1997.

“Moving Beyond Resistance: Ebonics and African American Youth,” co-author, Sylvia Cunningham, Journal of Black Psychology, Vol. 23, #3, August, 1997.

“Black Language and the Education of Black Children--One Mo Once,” The Black Scholar, Vol. 27, #1, Spring, 1997.

“African American English: Language Attitudes and Public Policy,” Twelve Pages, Vol. 4, #3, Fall, 1995. City University of New York.

“African Americans and English Only,” in E Pluribus Unum, ed., Dr. Denise Troutman, East Lansing: MSU College of Arts and Letters, 1995. [Revised version of 1992 article]

“‘Students’ Right to Their Own Language’: A Retrospective,” English Journal, Vol. 84, #1, January, 1995. [Reprinted in Students’ Right to Their Own Language: A Critical Sourcebook, 2015]

“‘Still I Rise’: Education Against the Odds in Cuba,” East Lansing Voice, Winter, 1993.

“African Americans and ‘English Only,’” Language Problems and Language Planning, Fall 1992. [Based on language survey of Blacks in several major cities]

“Educational Equity and Detroit’s Male Academies,” co-author, Dr. Clifford Watson, Black Issues in Higher Education, October 24, 1991.

“Black English, Diverging or Converging?: The View from the National Assessment of Educational Progress,” Language and Education, Vol. 6, #1, 1991.

“Black English in the Integrated Workplace,” co-author, Dr. Carl Botan, in Journal of Black Studies, December, 1991. [Based on survey of African and European Americans in Detroit]

“‘What is Africa to Me?’: Language, Ideology and *African American*,” American Speech, Vol. 66, #2, Summer, 1991, pp. 115-132. [Based on language survey of Blacks in several major cities. Reprinted in Word: A Black Culture Journal (1993) and as a chapter in Ward, 1992]

“A ‘New Way of Talkin’: Language, Social Change, and Political Theory,” Sage Race Relations Abstracts, Vol. 14, #1, February, 1989.

“The Nurturing Role of Black Church Women,” co-authors, Daniel, Daniel and Poag, in The Griot, Fall, 1987.

“‘Makin A Way Outa No Way’: The Proverb Tradition in the Black Experience,” co-authors, Drs. Jack L. Daniel and Milford Jeremiah, Journal of Black Studies, Vol. 17, #4, June, 1987. [Based on survey of Blacks in Detroit and Pittsburgh]

“Toward a National Public Policy on Language,” College English, Vol. 49, #1, January, 1987. [Reprinted in The Skin That We Speak, 2002]

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“Talkin and Testifyin: Black English and the Black Experience,” in U. Santamaria, ed., Les Temps Modernes, December, 1986. [Translated into French, in special journal issue on Black Americans]

“Deadly Force and Its Effects on Police-Community Relations,” co-authors, Drs. Edward Littlejohn and Alida Quick, in Howard Law Review, September, 1984.

“Language and Liberation,” Journal of Negro Education, Vol. 52, #1, Winter, 1983.

“American English in its Death Throes: Is We Sick?” North Carolina English Teacher, Winter, 1983.

“Talkin and Testifyin on Ann Arbor’s Green Road,” John Dewey Society Occasional Papers Series, 1981.

“‘What Go Round Come Round,’ *King* in Perspective,” Harvard Educational Review, February, 1981. [Reprinted in Tapping Potential, ed. Dr. Charlotte Brooks, National Council of Teachers of English, 1985. Adapted version reprinted in The Real Ebonics Debate, eds. Drs. Perry and Delpit, Beacon Press, 1998]

“Black English: So Good It’s Bad,” Essence Magazine, 1981.

“Black English and Black Identity: Message to the Talented Tenth,” co-author, Dr. Jack L. Daniel, Journal of Educational and Social Analysis, April, 1979.

“Toward Educational Linguistics for the First World,” College English, Vol. 41, No. 2, October, 1979.

“Sociolinguistic Conflict in the Schools,” co-author, Dr. James McGinnis, Journal of Non-White Concerns, January, 1978.

“Black Language and Black Liberation: Implications for Public Policy,” co-author, Dr. James McGinnis, Black Books Bulletin, June, 1977.

“We Are The Music: Ron Milner, People’s Playwright,” Black World, April, 1976.

“‘How I Got Over’: Communication Dynamics in the Black Community,” co-author, Dr. Jack L. Daniel, Quarterly Journal of Speech, February, 1976. [Article reprinted in Cultural Communication and Intercultural Contact, ed. Dr. D. Carbaugh. Excerpt of article reprinted in “The Prospect for Cultural Communication,” Dr. G. Philipsen, Communication Theory From Eastern and Western Perspectives, Academic Press, 1988]

Contributing Editor, with monthly column, “Soul ‘N Style,” English Journal, 1973-74, and Guest Columnist, 1975-76. [Recipient of Educational Press Association Award for Excellence in Journalism]

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“Everybody Wants to Know Why I Sing the Blues: Ed Bullins/Stage One,” Black World, April, 1974. [Recipient of Richard Wright-Woodie King Award for Drama Criticism]

“The Power of the Rap: The Black Idiom and the New Black Poetry,” Twentieth Century Literature, October, 1973. [Reprinted in Talkin Black Talk: Language, Education, and Social Change, eds., Drs. H. Samy Alim and John Baugh. New York & London: Teachers College Press Columbia University, 2007]

“White English in Blackface, or Who Do I Be?,” Black Scholar, May-June, 1973. [Reprinted in The State of the Language, eds., Drs. L. Michaels and C. Ricks. Excerpts reprinted in Dr. G. Goshgarian, ed., Exploring Language, 1983 and Black English, Standard English and Bi-Dialectalism, Hanni Taylor, 1989]

“The Black Idiom: What the English Curriculum Bees Needin,” Arizona English Bulletin, April, 1973.

“‘God Don’t Never Change’: Black English from a Black Perspective,” College English, March, 1973. [Condensed version published in Mental Health Digest. Excerpt reprinted in Guide to College Writing, ed., Dr. J. Corder, New York: Scott, Foresman, 1979]

“After Bi-Dialectalism--What?,” National Council of Teachers of English Cassette Recording Series, November, 1972. [Revised version published as “Grammar and Goodness,” in English Journal, May, 1973]

“The Legitimacy of the Black Idiom,” National Council of Teachers of English Cassette Recording Series, March, 1972.

“English Teacher, Why You Be Doing The Thangs You Don’t Do?,” English Journal, January, 1972.

“The Black Idiom and White Institutions,” Negro American Literature Forum, Fall, 1971.

Book Reviews

Louise de la Gorgendiere, Kenneth King and Sarah Vaughan, eds. Ethnicity in Africa: Roots, Meanings and Implications, co-author, Dr. Tumelontle Thiba, in International Journal of the Sociology of Language, Vol. 144, 2000.

Kathleen Heugh, Amanda Siegruhn, and Peter Pluddemann, eds. Multilingual Education for South Africa, co-author, Dr. Tumelontle Thiba, in Multilingua, Vol. 17, 2/3, special issue, “Aspects of Multilingualism in Post-Apartheid South Africa,” ed., Dr. Nkonko M. Kamwangamalu, 1998.

Hanni Taylor, Standard English, Black English and Bi-Dialectalism, co-author, Dr. Elaine Richardson, in Journal of Pidgin and Creole Languages, Vol. 10, #1, 1995.

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Josef Schmied, English in Africa, in Studies in Second Language Acquisition, 1993.

Alphonso Pinckney, Black Americans, in Contemporary Psychology, Vol. 34, #2, February, 1989.

Roger Hewitt, White Talk, Black Talk, in The American Journal of Sociology, November, 1988.

Noam Chomsky, Language and Responsibility, in Language in Society, Vol. 12, #3, Fall, 1983.

Abstracts in Academic Journals

“‘What is Africa to me?’: Language, Ideology and *African American*,” Sociological Abstracts, 1992; ERIC, 1997.

“Language and Liberation,” Sociological Abstracts, 1983.

“‘God Don’t Never Change’: Black English from a Black Perspective,” Language and Language Behavior Abstracts, 1974.

CONVENTION PAPERS & PRESENTATIONS (partial listing):

Speaker, Panel on *King Case*, Twenty-Five Years Later, New Ways of Analyzing Variation (N WAV), University of Michigan-Ann Arbor, October, 2004.

Keynote speaker, Pennsylvania State University annual Conference on Rhetoric, State College, PA, July, 2001.

“Reading and Dialects: Recent Publications on Ebonics,” Linguistic Society of America Parasession, Washington, D.C., January, 2001.

“Meditations on Language, Pedagogy and a Life of Struggle,” National Council of Teachers of English [NCTE] College Forum Address, Milwaukee, November, 2000. [Revised version published as book chapter in Rhetoric and Ethnicity, 2004]

“Leroy, Big D and Big Daddy Talkin Ebonics on the Internet,” co-presenters, Drs. David Kirkland and Austin Jackson, NCTE, Milwaukee, November, 2000. [Revised and published in American Language Review]

“The Africanization of American English,” NCTE, Denver, 1999.

“On Ebonics and the Teaching of English,” NCTE, Nashville, 1998.

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“Language Policy and Classroom Practices,” Invitational Conference, “Language Diversity and Academic Achievement in the Education of African American Students,” Center for Applied Linguistics, Howard University, NCTE, *et. al.*, New York, January, 1998.

Speaker, “African American English and Educational Policy,” Conference on African American English, University of Massachusetts-Amherst, March, 1995.

“History of Black English and Its Relationship to Rap Music,” Hip Hoppin Corporation Conference, “Is Rap Music the Blame or the Burden?” Medgar Evers College, New York, January, 1994.

INTERNATIONAL SEMINARS/LECTURES (partial listing):

“Language, Social History and Black Language Politics in South Africa and the United States,” co-presenter, Dr. Tumelontle Thiba, First International Conference on Linguistics in Southern Africa, University of Cape Town, South Africa, January, 2000.

“African Americans, Ebonics and U.S. Language-Planning Policy,” Tenth World Congress of Comparative Education Societies, University of Cape Town, July, 1998. [Revised version published in Comparative Perspectives on Language and Literacy, ed., Dr. Leslie Limage]

“Ebonics and the Education of Black Americans,” Southern African Applied Linguistics Association [SAALA] Annual Convention, University of Witwatersrand, South Africa, July, 1997.

Seminar on Ebonics, Project for the Study of Alternative Education in South Africa, Further Diploma Program, University of Cape Town, 1997.

Public lecture, “The Ebonics Issue Revisited,” sponsored by the Department of African Languages, University of Witwatersrand, July 1997.

Seminar for faculty and graduate students, “Language and Democracy in the R.S.A. and the U.S.A.,” Department of African Languages, University of Witwatersrand, August, 1997.

“The U.S.A. English Only Movement and Colonialism Revisited: Implications for South Africa?” Keynote address, SAALA Annual Convention, University of Zululand, South Africa, July, 1996.

“From ‘Hujambo’ to ‘Molo’: Study of and Interest in African Languages Among African Americans,” Pre-Seminar Colloquium on Harmonising and Standardising African Languages for Education and Development, University of Cape Town, July, 1996.

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“African American Language in the U.S. Educational System,” International Seminar on Language in Education in Africa, University of Cape Town, July, 1996.

“Language Policy in the U.S.A.: Lessons for South Africa?” University of Cape Town and University of the Western Cape, South Africa, August, 1995.

“‘The Chain Remain the Same’: Communicative Practices in the Hip Hop Nation,” English in Africa Conference, Rhodes University, Grahamstown, South Africa, September, 1995.

“‘A New Way of Talkin’,” Conference on Race and Class, Oxford University, England, January, 1988.

“Language and Identity in African American Women,” co-presenter, Dr. Rosalind Griffin, Conference on Writing and Language, Inter-university Centre of Post-Graduate Studies, Dubrovnik, Yugoslavia, May, 1988.

“Language Policy and Planning in Black America and Antigua,” co-presenter, Dr. Milford Jeremiah, Conference on Caribbean Culture, University of Puerto Rico, 1984.

“Black American Language and Culture,” College of the Virgin Islands, St. Thomas, 1984.

“Proverbs in the Diaspora--Current Research,” co-presenters, Drs. Jack L. Daniel and Milford Jeremiah, Second World Congress on Communication and Development, Barbados, 1983.

Consultant and Trainer, Workshop on Black English, Association of German Writers, Europaisches Ubersetzer-Kollegium, Straelen, West Germany, 1992; 1983.

“Black English,” international conference on Language and Power, Rockefeller Foundation Conference and Study Center, Bellagio, Italy, 1980.

“Linguistics and the Law,” University of Sussex, England, 1980.

“Linguistics and the Law: *King v. Ann Arbor*,” Maison des Sciences de L’Homme and Vicennes University, Paris and Amiens, France, 1980.

PROFESSIONAL CONSULTATION AND TRAINING WORKSHOPS

Court Cases (partial listing):

Chief expert witness, researcher and consultant on language and education for the plaintiff children in the pioneering “Black English” case, more formally known as *Martin Luther King Junior Elementary School Children, et. al. v. Ann Arbor School District*

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Board (1979). Working in this capacity for over two years prior to the trial, my role included research relevant to the dialect identification and patterns of plaintiff children; examination and analysis of their school and other academic records; providing assistance to legal team in constructing and establishing the case for a language barrier under U.S.C. 1703; assembling and coordinating a national team of expert witnesses; extensive court testimony during trial proceedings.

Expert witness in *U.S. vs. Jordan* (1999). Provided analysis of taped conversation identifying the use of Ebonics by speakers on tape and analyzing message-content of conversation.

Expert witness in *Wingate vs. County of Genesee* (1992-93), regarding linguistic appropriateness of training materials for Genesee County Court position.

Expert witness and researcher in *Young v. Riverland Woods Apartments* (1990), regarding relationship between telephone voice identification of race/ethnicity and housing discrimination.

Expert witness in *Joseph Maher, Judge v. Kenneth V. Cockrel* (1969). As an expert witness on language on behalf of Attorney Kenneth Cockrel, I assisted his legal team in constructing a case regarding the appropriateness of Cockrel's language for his audience and provided material relevant to the linguistic phenomenon of code-switching.

Institutions (partial listing):

Workshop facilitator and roundtable participant, "Reimagining Education for Youth in and beyond the Classroom: A Workshop for Critical Educators," University of Illinois-Urbana-Champaign, May 2-3, 2014.

Keynote Address (with Dr. H.S. Alim), African American Studies 6th Annual Symposium, Speaking While Black (or Brown): Language and Race in the U.S., University of Texas-San Antonio, April 11, 2013.

External Reviewer and Consultant, Department of African American Studies, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, Fall, 2011.

National Center for Culturally Responsive Educational Systems and Project Laser (Program for English Language Learners), July-December, 2008.

San Francisco Unified School District, October, 2008.

Los Angeles Unified School District, December, 2007.

External Reviewer and Consultant, Africana Studies Program, Western Michigan University, 2005.

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Educational Testing Service, National Board for Professional Teaching Standards Writing Study, 2000, 2001.

Merriam-Webster, Inc. Review of entries (offensive words) in Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary, 1998.

Chief Editor and Co-founder, African American Life Series, Wayne State University Press, 1987-1993.

Developer, Cultural Diversity and the Law Enforcement Officer [training manual], 1991; 1992, with Edward Littlejohn, Alida Quick, Jane White, and James Jackson. Lansing: Lansing Community College, Criminal Justice and Law Center.

Center for Applied Linguistics, National Teacher Exam, 1990.

Educational Testing Service, Sociolinguistic Consultant, National Teacher Exam, Graduate Record Exam, 1988; 1989.

Language Consultant, Central State University, 1981-1989.

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITY/SERVICE (partial listing):

Grant Proposal Reviewer, National Research Foundation, South Africa, 2013.

Advisory Board Member, ABC Connects (educational project, U.S. and South Africa, under Directorship of Dr. Alistair Witten), 2007-2011.

Member, Modern Language Association Teagle Foundation Task Force (to reassess undergraduate major), 2007-08.

Grant Proposal Reviewer: Spencer Foundation, 2008, 2001; National Science Foundation, 2000, 2002, 2003, 2005; National Endowment for the Humanities, 2000.

Member, Language Commission, National Council of Teachers of English, 2003-2006; 2006-2009.

NCTE Committee on Doublespeak, 2004-05.

Chair, Language Policy Committee, 1987-2010. Conference on College Composition and Communication. Member, 2010-present.

Co-organizer and Chair, Preconvention Workshop on Language Diversity and Composition, Annual Convention, College Composition and Communication, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008.

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Chair, Postconvention Workshop on Hip Hop, Conference on College Composition and Communication, Chicago, 2002.

Chair, Language and Linguistics Section, African Studies Association, 2001.

Chair and organizer, Panel on African American English, American Dialect Society, Washington, D.C., January, 2001.

Chair, Panel, "Recent Advances in Research on African American English," Linguistic Society of America, Washington, D.C., January, 2001.

Chair and organizer, "'Ain Nuthin But a G Thang': Hip Hop Composing and Community," Conference on College Composition and Communication annual convention, Denver, 2001.

Member, Standing Committee on Research, National Council of Teachers of English, 2000-03.

Member, Advisory Board, Academic Systems Writing Program, 1995-2001.

Tenured appointment file review, Linguistics Department, University of Massachusetts-Amherst, 2006; Department of Communication, Stanford University, 2003.

Promotion candidate (professor) file review: Department of English, Indiana University, 2015, 2014; Linguistics Department, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, 2013; University of Pennsylvania, 2012; University of Massachusetts-Amherst, 2009; Northwestern University, 2006; Hampton University, 2002; University of Natal, Durban, South Africa, 2001.

Tenure candidate file review, 2008: Syracuse University, Writing Program; Department of Anthropology, University of California-Los Angeles; Department of Educational Studies, Emory University; 2001: University of Georgia, English; University of Texas-Austin, Linguistics; San Jose State University, Education; 1999: University of Texas-Austin, English; Georgia State University, English; 1997-98: University of Michigan, School of Education; University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, Anthropology; Northwestern University, School of Education; University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, African American Studies.

Reappointment candidate file reviews (1997-98): Columbia University, English; Governors State University, English.

Editorial Boards: Language and Education (1990-present); Discourse and Society (1988-present); Howard Journal of Communication (1987-present); Research in the Teaching of English (1997-2013).

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Book manuscripts and proposals reviewed: Teachers College Press, Columbia University, 2000, 2011, 2012, 2013; Duke University Press, 2004; Cambridge University Press, 2000, 2001, 2004, 2009; Pearson Longman, 2003; Palgrave Macmillan, 2003; University of Texas Press, 2000.

Referee: Research in the Teaching of English, 2015, 2014; International Multilingual Research Journal, 2015; International Journal of Sociolinguistic Studies, 2014; Language and Education, 2008, 2009, 2010; Gender and Language, 2006; Research in the Teaching of English, 2004, 2006; Applied Linguistics, 2003, 2006; Reading Research Quarterly, 2003; Discourse and Society, 2002, 2004, 2006; Journal of Applied Social Psychology, 2002; Written Communication 1999, 2000; Language in Society, 2000; Howard Journal of Communication, 1999; Written Language and Literacy, 1999. Referee, International Journal of Educational Development, 1998; Journal of Negro Education, Journal of Literacy Research, Journal of Black Psychology, 1997; College English, 1994-97; Journal of Multilingual and Multicultural Development, 1995-96; College Composition and Communication, 1995-96.

Reviewer, Proposals for New Ways of Analyzing Variation (NWA), 2004.

Reviewer, proposals for 2015, 2014, 2003, 1996 Conventions, Conference on College Composition and Communication.

Bias Review Committee and Advisory Board, Michigan High School State-wide Proficiency Test of Writing, 1992-97.

Editorial Board and Series Editor, Modern Language Association, Research and Scholarship in Composition, 1989-1996.

Past member: Editorial Boards of American Speech and College Composition and Communication; Publications Council (Chair), National Congress of Black Faculty; Conference on College Composition and Communication Braddock Awards Committee (two terms); Commission on Minorities, Modern Language Association; Conference on English Education Executive Committee.

Conference on College Composition and Communication Executive Committee, 1972-74; 1997-99.

Conference on College Composition and Communication Committee on CCCC Language Statement (aka "Students' Right to Their Own Language"), 1971-80.

UNIVERSITY SERVICE (partial listing):

Acting Director, African American and African Studies, 2009-2010.

Chair, African American and African Studies Director Search Committee, 2006-07.

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Co-Chair, African American and African Studies Director Search Committee, 2004-05.

Executive Committee, African American and African Studies, 2002-present.

Panelist, "My President is Black," Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, November 29, 2008.

Member, African Studies Center Director Search Committee, 2007-08.

FLAS Committee, African Studies Center, Spring, 2008.

Reviewer, Hannah Professorship Proposals (Provost's Office), June, 2008.

Reviewer, proposals for Strategic Partnership Grant, 2008; SPG and Incubator Grant, Office of Research and Graduate Studies, 1999.

Associate Faculty/Advisory Board, African Student Union, 2005-06.

Judge, "Showtyme at MSU," for MLK Student Committee, January 14, 2006.

Chair, Hannah Professorship in African American and African Studies Search Committee, 2005-06.

Acting Provost Search Committee, 2004-05.

Chair and organizer, forum on Hip Hop, February, 2001.

Reviewer, Intramural Research Grants Program, 2000, 2003.

Member, Core Faculty, African Studies Center, 1996-2012.

Faculty Advisor, African Student Union, 1996-2001.

Member, Conference Committee, and Panel Chair, "Race in Twenty-First Century America: National Conference," 1999, 2001, 2003, 2005, 2007.

Workshop, Writing Center tutors, 1999.

Member, Honorary Degree Committee, 1996-98.

College of Arts and Letters Dean's Search Committee, 1996-97.

Mentor, McNair Summer Research Opportunity Program and DREAMS, 2006, 2005; 1991-98.

Mentor, University Undergraduate Research Forum, 2006.

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ENGLISH DEPARTMENT SERVICE (partial listing):

Co-founder and Member, African American Literature and Culture Committee, 2007.

Co-Chair, African American Literature and Culture Search Committee, 2001-02; 2002-03; 2003-04; 2004-05; 2005-06.

Member, African American Literature Search Committee, 1999, 2000.

Lecture, Special Course in African American Literature, Spring, 2000.

Chair, Tenure Committee, 1997-98.

Member, Graduate Committee, 1996-97; Spring, 1998; 2003-04.

PUBLIC SERVICE - MEDIA (partial listing):

2014: Frances Sellers, "Washington, D.C. Dialect," Washington Post (for article and on-line side-bar), July 10, 2014.

2008, 2006, 2004: William Safire, "Language," *New York Times Magazine*.

2005:

WLNS (Channel 6, Lansing), vignette highlighting Richard Ford, for MSU Sesquicentennial, July 4.

For My People, on Black Studies and African Centered Education (interviewer Lawrence X), April.

2001:

British Broadcasting Company, "Routes of English" (producer, Tony Phillips), Fall; National Public Radio, "Way With Words," (KPBS, San Diego), November 4.

1996-97:

CNN, "CNN Today," on Ebonics, December 20, 1996; "Talk Back Live," on Ebonics, December 26, 1996 & January 15, 1997; BET News, on Ebonics, January 17, 1997; WKAR (Radio), "Lansing UpFront," on Ebonics, February 12, 1997; CJAD (Radio) "Night Side," on Ebonics, Montreal, January 28, 1997; WBAI (Radio), "Education at the Crossroads," and "Talk Back," on Ebonics, New York, January 9 & 31, 1997; Source Magazine, Interview on Ebonics, April 1997; WCHB (Radio), "Youth Agenda," Detroit, October, 1996.

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1994-95:

Wisconsin Public Radio, “Ideas Network,” 1995; New York One and New York Close-Up (television), Summer, 1994; WJLB (Radio), “Talk Back,” Detroit, on Black English, 1994; BET, “Teen Forum,” King High School, Detroit, March, 1994; Channel 11, “Focus on Women,” Lansing, 1994.

1987-1994:

Oprah, on Black and Standard English, November, 1987; Sonya, Debate with Eleanor Wilson Orr on Black English and Math, January, 1988; CBS Nightwatch News, with Sonia Sanchez and James Turner, discussion of change from “Black” to “African American,” January 1989; WJLB (Radio), “Talk Back,” on African American Language, Detroit, 1991; Perspectives, Detroit Public Schools Cable Program, debate on the Male Academy proposal, May, 1991; Dan Rather, CBS Evening News Special, July, 1992.

1977-87:

British Broadcasting Corporation, film on *King* case; People Magazine, story on *King* case; CBS Reports; Today (NBC), “Phil Donahue,” on the *King* case; Dick Cavett (nationally televised discussion of Black English, with J.L. Dillard, John Simon and James Sledd); Today (NBC), book interview with Jane Pauley, on Talkin and Testifyin; Panelist, WBEZ (Radio), Chicago, Program on Black English, with Tom Kochman and William Labov.

PUBLIC SERVICE - OTHER ACTIVITY (partial listing):

Organizer, Symposium on Hip Hop and the Generational Divide, Detroit Public Schools’s Malcolm X Academy, February, 2008.

Member, Detroit Public Schools’s Malcolm X Academy Committee for Skillman Foundation Grant Proposal, Writing, Grades 3-5 (2007, grant awarded, 2008).

Member, Detroit Public Schools’s Malcolm X Academy Committee for Skillman Foundation Grant Proposal, African Centered Educational Institute (2006; grant awarded, 2007).

Panelist, Ebonics Forum, Malcolm X Academy, Detroit, 1997; Speaker, Annual Black History Program, Aijalon Missionary Baptist church, Detroit, 1997; Seminar on language, Detroit Free Press, 1997; Speaker, Black History Month, U.S. Department of Justice, U.S. Attorney, Eastern District of Michigan, 1995; Panelist, “Language in the Age of Political Correctness,” City of Lansing Celebration Symposium, 1995.

Member, Task Force to develop the Male Academy (under Assistant Superintendent Dr. Arthur Carter, Detroit Public Schools), 1990.

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HONORS/AWARDS (partial listing):

Advancement of People of Color Leadership Award, National Council of Teachers of English, 2012.

2012 Distinguished Researcher Award, National Conference for Research on Language and Literacies.

Marcus Garvey Foundation, 50th Anniversary Award, 2011.

MSU Lifetime Diversity Award, 2009.

Nominated, English Department Rosenberg Teaching Award, 2004; 2008.

2005 recipient, James R. Squire Award, National Council of Teachers of English [Awarded to NCTE member who has had a “transforming influence and has made a lasting intellectual contribution to the profession.”]

National Council of Teachers of English 2001 David H. Russell Research Award (for Talkin That Talk).

Michigan State University 2000 Distinguished Faculty Award.

Special Tribute, New Ways of Analyzing Variation, October, 2000.

1999 Exemplar Award, Conference on College Composition and Communication.

Honorable Mention, Ernest A Lynton Award for Faculty Professional Service and Academic Outreach, 1997.

James B. Hamilton Award, Mid-America Association of Educational Opportunity Program Personnel, 1994.

W.E.B. Dubois Scholarship Award, Wayne State University Phylon Society.

Zora Neale Hurston Anthropology Award, Wayne State University Center for Black Studies.

Scholarly Leadership in Language Arts Instruction, Conference on College Composition and Communication Black Caucus.

Outstanding Woman of the Year, National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women’s Young Adult Club.

Honored Woman of Wayne, Wayne State University.

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Educational Press Association Award for Excellence in Journalism.

Richard Wright-Woodie King Award for Drama Criticism, Black World.

Spirit of Detroit, Detroit City Council.