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Department of English  
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## Curriculum Vitae

### I. Education

- A.) B.A. Kenyon College, *cum laude* June, 1983  
B.) M.A. University of New Mexico May, 1986  
C.) Ph.D. Vanderbilt University December, 1991  
**Dissertation:** "Co-Operation and Conflict: Cross-Ethnicity  
in Contemporary Afro-American and Jewish-American Literatures."

### II. Teaching and Administrative Experience

- A.) 1983-1985 Teaching Assistant, University of New Mexico  
B.) 1987-1992 Teaching Fellow, Vanderbilt University  
C.) 1991-1992 Lecturer, Vanderbilt University  
D.) 1992-1998 Assistant Professor, Fisk University  
E.) 1998-2008 Associate Professor, Fisk University  
F.) 2001-2005 Chair, Department of English, Fisk University  
G.) 2003, 2006 Adjunct Associate Professor of Religious Studies, Vanderbilt University  
H.) 2004-2008 Director, Division of Humanities and Fine Arts, Fisk University  
I.) 2007-2008 Adjunct Associate Professor of English, Vanderbilt University

Courses taught include: composition (various levels); Introduction to Fiction; Introduction to  
Drama; Interpreting Texts; Varieties of Literature; Humanities; Survey of American  
Literature;  
Jazz Literature; F. Scott Fitzgerald; U.S. Immigrant and Migrant Literature; Black-Jewish  
Relations (with Gerald Early); Naturalism; Jack Kerouac and the Beat Generation; 20<sup>th</sup>  
Century  
British  
British Drama; American Novels of the 1990's; Shakespeare; John Steinbeck; Survey of  
Literature; 19<sup>th</sup> Century British Novel; Black-Jewish Relations in History, Literature, and Art  
(at Vanderbilt); Sinclair Lewis; American Literature of the 1920s; Black-Jewish Relations in  
the 1950s and 1960s (at Vanderbilt), Representative American Writers (at Vanderbilt).

### III. Teaching and Research Interests

- A.) American Prose Fiction  
B.) American Prose Fiction since 1945  
C.) American Ethnic Literatures  
    1.) African American Literature  
    2.) Jewish American Literature  
D.) The Beat Generation  
E.) Jazz Literature

- F.) American Drama since 1945
- G.) British Prose Fiction since 1945
- H.) British Drama since 1945.

#### IV. Publications

##### A.) Books

- 1.) Raymond Carver. United States Authors Series #633. New York: Twayne, 1995.  
reprinted in Twayne's United States Authors on CD-ROM. New York: G.K. Hall, 1997.
- 2.) Black-Jewish Relations in African American and Jewish American Fiction: An Annotated Bibliography. Metuchen, NJ: Scarecrow Press, 2002.

##### B.) Articles

- 1.) "Now You See Him, Now You Don't, Now You Do Again: The Evolution of Raymond Carver's Minimalism." Critique 30 (1989): 239-251.  
reprinted in Raymond Carver: A Study of the Short Fiction. Ewing Campbell. New York: Twayne, 1991. 143-158.
- 2.) "'One of the Great Early Counselors': The Influence of Franz Kafka on William S. Burroughs." Comparative Literature Studies 27.3 (1990): 211-229.
- 3.) "The Need for Cross-Ethnic Studies: A Manifesto (With Antipasto)." MELUS 16.4 (1989-90 [1991]): 19-39.
- 4.) "Faith and the 'Black Thing': Political Action and Self-Questioning in Grace Paley's Short Fiction." Studies in Short Fiction 31 (1994): 79-89.
- 5.) "The Persistence of the Pastoral and the Growth of the Gangster: The Urban Jewish-American Immigrant Novels of Mike Gold and Daniel Fuchs." Modern Jewish Studies 9 (1994): 162-171.
- 6.) "Memory and Identity for Black, White, and Jew in Paule Marshall's The Chosen Place, The Timeless People." MELUS 20.3 (1995): 99-120.
- 7.) "'Gee, You Don't Look Jewish': Julius Lester's Lovesong, an African-American Jewish American Autobiography." Studies in American Jewish Literature 18 (1999): 41-51.
- 8.) "'A Basic Unity of Experience': The Jewishness of Ralph Ellison and the Invisible Man." Prospects: An Annual of American Cultural Studies 25 (2000): 663-682.
- 9.) "Putting the 'Jewish' Back in 'Jewish American Fiction': A Look at Jewish American Fiction from 1977 to 2002 and an Allegorical Reading of Nathan Englander's 'The Gilgul of Park Avenue.'" Shofar 22.3 (2004): 104-120.
- 10.) "Not Entirely Strange, But Not Entirely Friendly Either: Images of Jews in African American Passing Novels Through the Harlem Renaissance." African American Review 38 (2004): 441-450.

C.) Articles Under Consideration

- 1.) "John Steinbeck's 'The Harness': A Possible Source for Raymond Carver's 'The Bridle.'" [at [The Steinbeck Review](#)]

D.) Entries in Reference Works

- 1.) "Lore Segal." [Jewish American Women Writers: A Bio-Bibliographical and Critical Sourcebook](#). Ed. Ann R. Shapiro. Westport, CT: Greenwood Press, 1994. 387-396.
- 2.) "Blyden, Edward Wilmot." [The Oxford Companion to African American Literature](#). Eds. William L. Andrews, Frances Foster, and Trudier Harris. New York: Oxford University Press, 1997. 90.
- 3.) "Jews." [The Oxford Companion to African American Literature](#). Eds. William L. Andrews, Frances Foster, and Trudier Harris. New York: Oxford University Press, 1997. 398.
- 4.) "Segal, Lore." [Jewish Women in America: An Historical Encyclopedia](#). Eds. Paula E. Hyman and Deborah Dash Moore. New York: Routledge, 1997. 1225.  
reprinted in [Jewish Women: A Comprehensive Historical Encyclopedia](#) (CD-ROM). Eds. Paula E. Hyman and Dalia Ofer. Jerusalem: Shalvi, 2006.
- 5.) "Hal Bennett." [Contemporary African American Novelists: A Bio-Bibliographical Critical Sourcebook](#). Ed. Emmanuel S. Nelson. Westport, CT: Greenwood Press. 1999. 36-41.
- 6.) "Sam Greenlee." [Contemporary African American Novelists: A Bio-Bibliographical Critical Sourcebook](#). Ed. Emmanuel S. Nelson. Westport, CT: Greenwood Press, 1999. 185-191.

F.) Other Publications

- 1.) Contribution to "Forum." [PMLA](#) 114 (1999): 100-101.
- 2.) Book Review. [Children of Job: American Second-Generation Witnesses to the Holocaust](#). by Alan L Berger. [MELUS](#) 25 (2000): 244-246.

G.) Works in Progress

- 1.) [Fisk Writers](#). (edited anthology)
- 2.) [Why Aren't Filipinos from the Philippines?: A Plea for Simplified Spelling \(Using Samspel\)](#). by Sanford Silverman. (editor)

## V. Public Speaking

### A.) Conference Papers Presented

- 1.) "The Need for Cross-Ethnic Studies: A Manifesto (With Antipasto)." The National Graduate Student Conference on English Studies. University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Nov. 9, 1990.
- 2.) "The Persistence of the Pastoral and the Growth of the Gangster in the Urban Jewish-American Immigrant Novels of Mike Gold and Daniel Fuchs." The MLA Convention. Chicago. Dec. 28, 1990.
- 3.) "The Ethnic Detective in an Other Ethnic Environment: Ernest Tidyman's Shaft Among the Jews and Ed Lacy's In Black and Whitey." The MLA Convention. New York City. Dec. 30, 1992.
- 4.) "Faith and the 'Black Thing': Political Action and Self-Questioning in Grace Paley's Short Fiction." Twentieth Century Literature Conference. Louisville. Feb. 25, 1993.
- 5.) "Tug 'O War: Black-Jewish Relations in Lore Segal's Her First American and Paule Marshall's The Chosen Place, The Timeless People." Association for Jewish Studies Conference. Boston. Dec. 13, 1993.
- 6.) "Now Comes the Black: Suburban Desegregation Battles in Jo Sinclair's The Changelings and Herbert Gold's The Prospect Before Us." The Northeast Modern Language Association Convention. Boston. April 1, 1995.
- 7.) "Southern Jewish Writers, African Americans, and Violence: One Figuration of the Jew in Contemporary Southern Literature." The MLA Convention. Toronto. Dec. 27, 1997.
- 8.) "Israel and Israelis in the Works of John A. Williams." The First Nashville Conference on Black- Jewish Relations. Nashville. April 3, 1998.
- 9.) "'Nothing Was Rooted Anymore': Multiple Migrations in William Attaway's Blood on the Forge and Bharati Mukherjee's Jasmine." MELUS Conference. Nashville. March 20, 1999.
- 10.) "Not Entirely Strange, But Not Entirely Friendly Either: Images of Jews in African American Passing Novels Through the Harlem Renaissance." American Literature Association Conference. Baltimore. May 30, 1999.
- 11.) "Black-Jewish Relations in Children's and Young Adult Literature." American Literature Association Confernece. Long Beach. May 28, 2000.

### B.) Invited Talks

- 1.) "Response." Martin Luther King Day Convocation. Fisk University. January 14, 1999.
- 2.) "The Pawnbroker of Harlem." Institute for Lifelong Learning. Nashville. Harpeth Hall School. April 9, 2000.

- 3.) "Feasting with Mine Enemies': A Possible Path to Peace." Symposium on Terrorism, Civil Liberties and War. Fisk University. Nov. 6, 2001.
- 4.) "Lessons from the Real World – A Panel of VU Grad Alumni Share Their Experiences and Advice." Special Plenary Session, GradSTEP 2003. Vanderbilt University. Jan 18, 2003.
- 5.) "A Synecdoche of Solidarity: Martin Luther King and Black-Jewish Relations in Jewish American Fiction." Kenyon College Hilel. Kenyon College. Jan. 26, 2005.
- 6.) "A Synecdoche of Solidarity: Martin Luther King and Black-Jewish Relations in Jewish American Fiction." (shortened version) Faculty Research Presentations. Student Research Day. Fisk University. April 7, 2005.

#### VI. Awards Won

- A.) Third Prize, Katharine D. Newman awards for the best essay in MELUS vol. 16, for "The Need for Cross-Ethnic Studies: A Manifesto (With Antipasto)."

#### VII. Grants Received/Administered

- A.) Summer Seminars for College Teachers, National Endowment for the Humanities, 1992.  
[Provided \$3,600 for seven weeks' study of the topic "Jewish-American Writing Since 1925," under the direction of Prof. Mark Krupnick, at the University of Chicago]
- B.) Released Time Award, Bush-Hewlett Faculty Development Program, Fisk University, 1994.  
[Provided release from one course, one semester, to allow development of a new course on Jazz Literature]
- C.) Project Director, FIPSE Program, Fisk University, 1997-99.  
[Provided release from one course per semester to administer grant previously received regarding the university's interdisciplinary and multicultural core program]
- D.) Sabbatical Grant, Fisk University, 1999.  
[Provided one semester free of teaching to pursue work on Black-Jewish relations projects]
- E.) Technology Grant, Bush Faculty Development Program, Fisk University, 2001.  
[Provided \$500 to facilitate adding technology to an existing course (Survey of American Literature)]
- F.) Research Collaboration Grant, Bush Faculty Development Program, Fisk University, 2001-02.  
[Provided \$3,000 for faculty-student collaboration on a research project ("Towards a Biography of Alvah Bessie")]
- G.) Technology Grant, Bush Faculty Development Program, Fisk University, 2002.  
[Provided \$500 to facilitate adding technology to an existing course (Varieties of Literature)]

#### VIII. Conferences Organized

- A.) The First Nashville Conference on Black-Jewish Relations. Nashville, TN: April 2-4, 1998.

## IX. Memberships in Professional Organizations

A.) MLA (The Modern Language Association)

## X. Consulting

A.) Judge, PENCIL Essay contest, Metropolitan Davidson County Public Schools, Nashville, TN. 1993-95.

B.) Evaluator of Tennessee State University's "Project to Revise World Literature Courses" for the National Endowment for the Humanities, Nashville, TN. May-July 1995.

C.) Proposal Review Panelist for FIPSE, Tennessee State University, Nashville, TN. Nov. 1996.

D.) Judge, Charles S. Johnson Essay Contest, Race Relations Institute, Fisk University, Nashville, TN. March, 1997.

E.) Outside Reader, Senior Projects, Department of English, Samford University, Birmingham, AL. April 1995; April 1996; December 1996; April 1997; April 1999; December 1999; March 2000; May 2000; December 2000; May 2003; December 2004; December 2005; December 2006

## XI. University Service (Selected)

Chair of the Department of English (2001-2005)

Director, Division of Humanities and Fine Arts (2004-2008)

Chair of the Faculty Development Committee (2002-2004)

Member of the Faculty Development Committee (2002-2006)

Chair of the Faculty Assembly (1999-2000)

Secretary of the Faculty Assembly (1995-1996)

Member of the Executive Committee of the Faculty Assembly (ex officio) (1994-1996, 1998-2000)

Chair of the President's Summer School Task Force (1999-2000)

Chair of the Provost Search Committee (2003)

Member of the Grievance Committee (2000-2001)

Member of the Steering Committee for the Presidential Inauguration (1999-2000)

Member of the Special Committee for Strategic Planning (1999)

Member of the Taskforce on Strategic Planning (2001-2002)

Member of the University SWOT Team (2004)

Member of the University Core Curriculum Committee (1998-1999)

Member of the Faculty Assembly Core Curriculum Committee (2000-2001)

Member of the Dean Search Committee (1998-1999)

Member of the Steering Committee for the Self-Study (1997-1998)

Member of the Committee on Reduced Preparations (1993-1995)

Member of the University Scholarship Committee (2003-2008)

Member of the University Publications Board (2004-2007)

Member of the Core 110 Colleague Group (1992-2008)

Chair of the Core 110 Colleague Group (1999-2002)

Chair and Member of the Core 210 Colleague Group (1996-2008)

Advisor to Lambda Iota Tau (English Honor Society) (2002-2006)

Advisor to the Fisk Herald (student literary/arts magazine) (2001-2008)

## XI. Manuscripts Reviewed

### A.) Book Length

- 1.) The Stories of Raymond Carver. Northeastern University Press. 1992.
- 2.) Song of the Ethnic Self: An Affinity Study of Walt Whitman and Ethnic Writers. State University of New York Press. 1993.
- 3.) Emerging: A Reader. Proposal. McGraw-Hill. 2006.

### B.) Article Length

- 1.) "Voyage of Discovery: Avery Johnson's Quest in Paule Marshall's Praisesong for the Widow." MELUS. March-April 1996.
- 2.) "Paule Marshall's Daughters: Wars Of Independence." MELUS. Oct.- Nov. 1996.
- 3.) "'Oral Tutelage': The Figure of Literacy in Paule Marshall's Brown Girl, Brownstones and Zora Neale Hurston's Their Eyes Were Watching God." MELUS. Feb.-April 1997.
- 4.) "Cleansing the Ethnic: Salome of the Tenements as Effigy of Repressivism." MELUS. April-May 1998.
- 5.) "The Construction of Ethnic Identity in Philip Roth's 'Defender of the Faith.'" MELUS. July-August 1998.
- 6.) "Assimilation and Self-Hatred in Jewish and African-American Literature." MELUS. November-December 1998.
- 7.) "'Palestine was a halting place, one of many': Diasporism in the Poetry of Charles Reznikoff." MELUS. February-March, 1999.
- 8.) "The Whites' Racial Discourse in Caryl Phillips's Cambridge." MELUS. April-May, 1999.
- 9.) "'Apple Pie with an Oreo Crust': Fran Ross's Recipe for an Idiosyncratic American Novel." MELUS. August-September, 2000.
- 10.) "Both Joined and Separate: English, Mary Antin, and the Rhetoric of Identification." MELUS. February 2001.
- 11.) "The Geography of Caution in Daniel Fuchs's Summer in Williamsburg." MELUS. December 2005.
- 12.) "Begging to Differ: Nella Larsen's Quicksand and Anzia Yezierska's Arrogant Begar." African American Review. March 2006.
- 13.) "In a Dying World, Creation is Revolution: Waldo Frank's Jewish-Modernist Influence on Jean Toomer's 'Fern.'" African American Review. January 2008.