

Director of Student Development 1993 – 1995
Student personnel director. Overall student affairs office direction including budget development and management for one campus. Additional development of programs included: Family Fun Day, focus on commuter students; mentoring for new students; speakers' series implementation; student retreat opportunities.

EDUCATION

Doctor of Philosophy, June 1998. Northwestern University - Garrett Evangelical Theological Seminary, Joint Program, Evanston, Illinois.

Master of Theological Studies, magna cum laude, St. John Provincial Seminary, Plymouth, Michigan, 1989.

Bachelor of Arts, Interdisciplinary Studies, magna cum laude, Sacred Heart Seminary College, Detroit, Michigan, 1985.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS:

- American Academy of Religion
- Society for the Study of Black Religion

PUBLICATIONS

BOOKS:

African American Folk Healing (New York: New York University Press, 2007)

Name It and Claim It? Prosperity Preaching and the Black Church (Cleveland: Pilgrim Press, 2007).

African American Women Tapping Power and Spiritual Wellness (Cleveland: Pilgrim Press, 2004).

Introducing Womanist Theology, (Maryknoll, New York: Orbis Books, 2002; 7th printing, 2008).

Co edited volume:

Faith, Health, and Healing Among African Americans, co-editors, Stephanie Y. Mitchem and Emilie M. Townes (Praeger, 2008).

ESSAYS:

“To Make the World Home: Rosemary Radford Ruether and Ecofeminist Theology,” volume forthcoming.

“Pluralism in African American Religious Life,” volume forthcoming (Oxford University Press).

“Black American Women and the Gift of Embodied Spirituality,” volume forthcoming.

“Womanist Theology,” for *Women and Religions*, edited by Michaela Moravcikova and Lucia Greskova. (2008).

“Womanist Theology: Looking to the Future,” *New Theology Review*, February 2008. vol. 21, #1. 52-56.

“Finding Questions and Answers in Womanist Theology and Ethics,” in *Feminist Theologies, Legacy and Prospect*, edited by Rosemary Radford Ruether (Minneapolis: Fortress Press 2007), pp. 66-78. (Conference proceedings).

“Religious Healing as Pedagogical Performance,” in *Teaching Religion and Healing*, edited by Linda Barnes and Ines Talamantez (Oxford University Press 2006). 219-228.

Response to “Must I be Womanist?” *Journal of Feminist Studies in Religion* Spring 2006. vol. 22, #1. 123-128.

“Border Disputes: Honoring Our Ancestors, Honoring Our Selves” in *Teaching African American Religions* edited by Carolyn M. Jones and Theodore Louis Trost (New York: Oxford University Press, 2005), pp. 43-56.

“Coloring Outside the Lines,” *Journal of Feminist Studies in Religion*, Fall 2005. vol. 21, #2. 128-130.

“Jesus is My Doctor: African American Women and Healing,” in *Religion and Healing in America* edited by Linda L. Barnes and Susan S. Sered (New York: Oxford University Press, 2005), pp. 281-290.

“What’s Love Got to Do? (and other stories of black women’s sexualities),” *Crosscurrents*, Fall 2004. vol. 54, #3. 72-84.

“What Doesn’t Kill You Will Make You Strong: African American Women in Catholic Colleges,” in *Women in Catholic Higher Education: Border Work, Living Experiences, and Social Justice* edited by Sharlene Nagy Hesse-Biber and Denise Leckenby (Lanham, MD: Lexington Books, 2003). 17-31.

“Reading Womanists, Reading Ourselves,” *Journal of Feminist Studies in Religion*, Fall 2003. vol. 19, #2. 67-74.

“No Longer Nailed to the Floor,” *Crosscurrents*, Spring 2003. vol. 53, #1. 64-75.

“There is a Balm: African American Women and Healing,” *Michigan Family Review*, Fall 2002. vol. 7, #1. 19-34.

“African American Women, Healing and Reconciliation,” in *Gender, Ethnicity, and Religion, Views from the Other Side*, edited by Rosemary Radford Ruether, (Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 2002), 247-262.

“Interview with Jane D. Schaberg,” *Crosscurrents*, Spring 2002. vol. 52, #1. 72-80.

“Womanists and (Unfinished) Constructions of Salvation,” *Journal of Feminist Studies in Religion*, Spring 2001. vol. 17, #1. 85-100.

“Sankofa: Black Theologies,” *Crosscurrents*, Spring-Summer 2000. vol. 50, #1/2. 177-185.

Contributor, *Struggle for Empowerment*, CD produced for middle school children through Wayne County Intermediate School District, February 2000.

EDITING:

Series editor, “Southern Religions, Southern Identity,” University of South Carolina Press, June 2009 to present.

Editor of journal for the Society of Black Religion, March 2008 to June 2009.

Edited the following issues of *Crosscurrents*, wrote corresponding editorials:

- June 2010, Vol. 60, #2. Religion and Healing.
- Fall 2007, vol. 57, #3. Religious Encounters.
- Fall 2005, vol. 55, #1. American Dreams: Class and Religion.
- Summer 2004, vol. 54, #2. An Anniversary of Ideas.
- Spring 2003, vol. 53, #1. Feminism: What Went Wrong.
- Spring 2001, vol. 51, #1. Godscape, Cityscape.

Edited the fall 2006, vol. 22, #2 issue of the *Journal of Feminist Studies in Religion* and wrote corresponding editorial.

Journal of Feminist Studies in Religion, editorial board, beginning November 2004.

Cross Currents, Contributing Editor. 2000 to present. (Involves occasional editing of an issue plus regular conference-call-meetings of editorial board).

Manuscript reviews (most recent):

March 2011, Review of essay for *Journal of Race and Religion*.

February 2011, Review of essay for *Social Science Quarterly*.

COMMITTEES AND SERVICE

UNIVERSITY COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP:

University of South Carolina--

January 2009-2010, Quality of Life of the University Committee (Focus Carolina);

December 2008-2010, Diversity Task Force;

Women's Studies Program, faculty awards selection committee 2008;

University of South Carolina Press Board, 2007 to present;

Search committee Women's Studies Director, 2006-07.

University of Detroit Mercy--

Shared Governance Task Force, 2004-5;

Academic Committee on the Status of Women, 2001 -2004;

Sexual Harassment prevention Contact Person, 1999-2000;

Diversity and Liberal Learning Committee, 1996-1998.

PROFESSIONAL COLLABORATIONS:

Co-chair, Religions, Medicines and Healing section 2010 to present; committee member, American Academy of Religion 2005-present.

Committee member, Womanist Approaches to Religion and Society, American Academy of Religion, 2010-present.

Program committee member, Society for the Study of Black Religion, 2007-2008.

Journal of Feminist Studies in Religion, Co-editor, 2006-2008.

Member, Workgroup on Constructive Theology, beginning 2006-present.

Member of Committee on the Status of Women in the Profession, American Academy of Religion, 2005-2007.

Visiting professor, Institute for Black Catholic Studies, Xavier University, New Orleans, LA, July 2004.

2001-2002, through Wabash Center, national collaboration: "Mining the Motherlode: Teaching and Learning African American Religious Life."

1999-2000, American Academy of Religion, Lilly Foundation teaching workshop, "Mining the Motherlode of African American Religious Life."

COMMUNITY COLLABORATIONS:

December 2006 to present, South Carolina Humanities Council, member of Humanities Out Loud Speaker Bureau.

June 2006-2008, Board member, Sexual Trauma Services of the Midlands.

Summers 2004-5, Faculty with the Detroit Summer Project.

Fall 2003, Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History, Detroit, Michigan. Historian consultant team member for development of core exhibit.

1999-2000, Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History, Detroit, Michigan. Visiting scholar.

Initiated and implemented community based "African American Women's Health Conference, Promoting Wellness," March 1998.

PRESENTATIONS (PARTIAL LISTING)

June 2011, "Religious Intimacies," invited panelist at Gender, Religion, and Human Rights Conference, European Science Foundation, Linkoping, Sweden.

November 2010, "African American Religion and Social Class," panelist at American Academy of Religion conference.

March 2010, SECSOR presentation, invited panelist, "Black Religions in 21st century."

November 2009, invited lecturer, Denison University, Ohio.

February 2009, South Carolina African American Studies Association, "The Importance of African American Studies," invited keynote speaker.

February 2009, Claflin University, "Money and Pastoral Responsibility," Harkins Conference invited speaker.

March 2008, Brite Divinity School, Fort Worth, TX, "Thinking about Profits or Prophets," Black Religious Scholars Group.

- February 2008, Presenter on *Lesson Before Dying* by Ernest Gaines, for the Big Read, at the State Library, Columbia, South Carolina.
- February 2008, Clarendon County Library, "Black Culture", Manning, South Carolina. Part of the Humanities Out Loud program.
- January 2008, panelist, Barnes Symposium, University of South Carolina.
- November 2007, Respondent to panel discussion of book, *African American Folk Healing* Afro-American Religious History Group and Religion, Medicines, and Healing Group, American Academy of Religion.
- October 2007, Denison University, "African Americans and Healing: Facing Fears and Feeding Dreams."
- September 2007, Claflin University, speaker for Scholars' Lecture series: "Calling, Vocation, and Socio-Ethical Responsibility for the 21st Century."
- April 21, 2007, Workgroup for Constructive Theology, Nashville, "Divinity of Jesus, wellness, and me."
- March 31, 2007, Keynote address, University of South Carolina Annual Diversity and the Doctorate Symposium, McNair Program.
- March 2, 2007, presenter, University of South Carolina Annual Women's Studies conference, "Women across the African Diaspora: First Conversations in Bahia."
- February 28, 2007, Keynote for the Augustus Tolton Lecture, Catholic Theological Union, Chicago, IL.
- November 19, 2006, American Academy of Religion, "Teaching as Pedagogical Performance" for a Religions, Medicines, and Healing session.
- November 18, 2006, American Academy of Religion, "'What is Africa to Me?' The Diaspora and Postcolonial Studies in Black Theology (on the U.S. Side)" for a Black Theology session.
- November 17, 2006, American Academy of Religion, "On Publishing" for the pre-conference, Womanist Consultation.
- June 2006, guest lecturer, Human Development (School of Architecture) University of Detroit Mercy.
- November 2005, Respondent Bernadin Lecture, University of South Carolina.
- October 2005, "Mamas, Sisters and Lovers: African American Women and

- Wellness,” University of South Carolina, Women’s Studies Research Series.
- June 2005, Panelist, “Teaching for Change” invited conference, Harvard Divinity School.
- May 2005, “Sexualities and Spiritualities,” invited speaker, DePaul University, Chicago, IL.
- March 2005, “Finding Questions and Answers in Womanist Theology and Ethics,” conference presenter, Graduate Theological Union, Berkeley, California.
- June 2004, Presenter at Women’s Wellsprings Conference, St. Mary College, Notre Dame, Indiana
- November 2003, “A Real Woman with a Dollar in her Shoe: African American Women and Theologies of Prosperity” and “Testing Inequality: Losing Brown v Board, Maintaining Race” at American Academy of Religion conference, San Antonio, TX.
- October 2003, “Womanist Theology,” St. Mary’s, Notre Dame, Indiana.
- February 2003, “African Americans and Health,” Bon Secours Hospital, Grosse Pointe, Michigan.
- January 2003, “Womanist Theology” Xavier University, Cincinnati, Ohio.
- November 2002, discussant for paper, “Black Feminism and Identity Politics,” Theory Construction and Research Methodology conference, Houston, TX.
- October 2002, “Construct/ing Black Women,” for Georgetown University’s Women’s Studies Program.
- June 2002, “Tangled Roots: African American and Hispanic Catholics in Dialogue,” Catholic Theological Society of America Conference, New Orleans, LA.
- September 2001, “Jesus is My Doctor,” Religious Healing in Urban America Conference, Harvard University Center for the Study of World Religions, Boston, MA.
- March 2001, “Un-essentially Yours: Black Women in Different Colors,” Michigan Women’s Studies Association Conference, Detroit, MI.
- July 2000, “Morphing Theology,” Cross Currents Conference.
- June 2000, “Between a Rock and a Hard Place: African American Women in the Academy,” National Association of Women in Catholic Higher Education.

March, 2000, "African American Women, Healing and Spirituality," Museum of African American History, Detroit, MI.

GRANTS AND HONORS

July 2010, awarded Academic Leadership Development Fellowship, University of South Carolina.

2005, College of Liberal Arts and Education (Univ. of Detroit Mercy) research grant.

June, 2002, the Wise Woman Award from the National Association of Women in Catholic Higher Education.

January 2002, invited participant, Louisville Institute Consultation on tenure and promotion for minority scholars.

Summer 2001, Collegium (intercollegiate Catholic colleges' scholars) fellow.

Summer 2000, Jesuit 100 research grant, University of Detroit Mercy.

July 1999, Association of Religion and Intellectual Life, Coolidge Fellow.

Grant for the Advancement of Feminist Studies, University of Detroit Mercy, Women's Studies, 1996.

1995 - 1997, Garrett Evangelical Theological Seminary, Fellowship.

1996 and 1997, Fund for Theological Education scholar.

TEACHING

Courses taught include:

University of South Carolina

- African American Religious Experience;
- Women and Religion;
- Religions in the African Diaspora;
- Black Feminist Theory;
- Feminist Theory;
- Liberation Theologies;
- Constructing 21st Century Theologies;
- Perspectives in Religious Studies.