

SUMMARY PROFILE

- Exemplary educator and nonprofit leader with two decades of experience in higher education and educational prison work.
- Scholar with expertise in prison studies, American Studies, literature/poetry/drama, writing instruction, and intersectional analysis of dismantling unjust systems.
- Experienced liaison between educational institutions and correctional facilities adept at bidirectional translation of educational and corrections policy and procedures.
- Successful executive leadership including donor cultivation, grant-writing, community building, vision work, priority setting, restorative practices.
- Transparent, inclusive manager with proven capacity to attract committed, talented staff/volunteers and build a high-functioning compassionate organizational culture
- Experienced public speaker, convener and collaborator with major stakeholders.

EDUCATION

PhD English University of Massachusetts, Amherst 2000
MA English St. Louis University 1993
BA English Boston College (Summa Cum Laude) 1990

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Eberly Family Professor of Outstanding Teaching, WVU	2016 – present
Professor of English	2018 - present
Associate Professor of English	2007 - 2018
Assistant Professor of English	2000 - 2007

LEADERSHIP - Appalachian Prison Book Project (501c3)

President	2020-2021
Work-Study Supervisor	2018-2020
Education Coordinator	2018-present
Chair of the Executive Board	2011-2018
President	2011-2014
Founder	2004

ENGAGEMENTS IN PRISON EDUCATION

Director, WVU Higher Education in Prison Initiative	2020-present
Building Bridges to a Better Community Certification	2021
Restorative Justice Facilitation Training with Kay Pranis	2020
Inside-Out Prison Exchange Program	
SCI Fayette (PA)	2019 – present
FCI Hazelton (WV)	2017 – 2019

Co-facilitator, Women's Book Club, Hazelton Correctional Center	2014 - 2019
GED Prep/Reading and Writing, Hazelton Correctional Center	Summer 2018
Certification, Inside-Out Prison Exchange Program, Temple Univ.	2016

WVU Events

Eberly Visions of Justice Series Convened session with Sr. Rosemary Nyirumbe	2020
Women Behind Bars Conference Invited keynote speaker Dwayne Betts	2020
Justice and Literature Class Visit with Renaldo Hudson	2020
James Madison University Service-Learning Weekend	2016, 2017
Helen Coast Hays Peace Lecture Series	2015
Educational Justice and Appalachian Prisons Symposium	2014
A Forum with Delbert Tibbs, exonerated from death row	2005

Professional Service

Reviewer, <i>Journal of Higher Education in Prison</i>	2021
Copyeditor, <i>Stateville Speaks</i> , Illinois prison newspaper	2004-2010

Awards

2020 Nonprofit of the Year <i>Appodlachia</i> (APBP)	2020
Barrelhouse Magazine Amplifier Award (APBP)	2019
Innovations in Reading National Book Foundation (APBP)	2018
Lydia Maria Child Society Social Justice Award	2018
Neil S. Bucklew Award for Social Justice	2014

Grants

Laughing Gull Foundation	2021
Vireo Foundation	2020
WVU Foundation Women of WVU	2017
Appalachian Community Fund	2014
Co-Project Director, WV Humanities Council Major Grant	2013
WVU Public Service Grant	2007, 2008, 2009, 2010

TEACHING HIGHLIGHTS

Awards

Sigma Tau Delta Outstanding Teaching Award	2017
James and Arthur Gabriel Brothers Faculty Award	2008
Teaching Award, English Graduate Organization	2008
WVU Foundation Outstanding Teacher Award	2007
WVU Eberly College Outstanding Teacher Award	2007

Grant

WVU Eberly Summer Course Development Grant Created ENGL 275: Justice and Literature	2014
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Graduate Courses

ENGL 731	American Studies Seminar
ENGL 691B	Advanced Topics: Inside-Out Prison Exchange Mentoring
ENGL 693B	Penalty of Death in U.S. American Literature
ENGL 693A	U.S. Literature of Imprisonment and Resistance
ENGL 648	Twentieth-Century American Literature
ENGL 631	Studies in Nonfiction Prose (Prison Autobiographies)

Undergraduate Courses

ENGL 496	Senior Thesis
ENGL 355	Multi-Ethnic Literature
ENGL 275	Justice and Literature
ENGL 254	African American Literature
ENGL 242	American Literature II: 1865-present
ENGL 131	Poetry and Drama
ENGL 102	Rhetoric and Composition

SEI Reports for All Courses Available upon Request. Key metrics average 4.9/5.0.

RELEVANT SCHOLARSHIP (see Appendix for Additional Work)

Scholarly Blog

["Where the Letters Lead: The Appalachian Prison Book Project."](#) *The Discipline at Modernism/Modernity* 29 Dec. 2020.

Scholarly Essays

With Valerie Surrent and Rayna Momen. "Reading and Writing between the Devil and the Deep Blue." *Teaching Literature and Writing in Prison*. Eds. Patrick Alexander and Sheila Smith McCoy. Modern Language Association. Forthcoming.

"A Prison Nation and Freedom Dreams: 1980s Literature of Incarceration." *American Literature in Transition: 1980-1990*. Ed. Quentin Miller. Cambridge University Press, 2017. 129-146.

"'When Freedom Comes': Maria Parker, the Women's Department, and the West Virginia State Penitentiary." *West Virginia History* 11.1 (Spring 2017): 1-27.

With Yvonne Hammond. "Work & Hope and the West Virginia State Penitentiary." *West Virginia History* 11.1 (Spring 2017): 29-43.

"Prison, Time, *Kairos* in Langston Hughes's *Scottsboro, Limited*." *Modern Drama* 58.2 (June 2015): 171-193.

"A View from *The Brig*: From the Cage to the Street" in *Political and Protest Theatre after 9/11: Patriotic Dissent*. New York: Routledge 2012: 156-173.

"State Killing, the Stage of Innocence, and *The Exonerated*." *American Literature* 83.1 (March 2011): 121-151.

"Permeable Borders and American Prisons: Malcolm Braly's *On the Yard*." *Texas Studies in Literature and Language* 50.3 (2008): 285-303.

Edited Collection

Co-editor, *Dear APBP: A Book of Letters and Artwork*. In process.

Editor, *Demands of the Dead: Executions, Storytelling, and Activism in the United States*. Iowa City: University of Iowa Press, 2012. 330 pp.

Interviews and Reviews

Review. Joy James, ed. *Warfare on the Homefront: Policing and Prison in a Penal Democracy* in *African American Review* 43.2-3 (2009): 528-530.

"Rebuilding the Common Good: [An Interview with Linda Kintz](#)." *ATHENews* (Oct. 2007).

Review of Marc C. Conner, ed. *The Aesthetics of Toni Morrison: Speaking the Unspeakable* in *African American Review*. 36.1 (2002): 166-67.

"Documentary Films on US Social Issues." *Humanities Collections* 1.2 (1999): 101-07.

Invited Lectures

"Mailing Books, Building Community." Furman University. 2021.

"Bryan Stevenson's *Just Mercy* and Abolitionist Educational Movements," West Virginia University Eberly College. Common Read Public Lecture. 2016

"A Book, Doing Time: Appalachian Prison Book Project and *Demands of the Dead*." Summer Community of Writers. Chatham University. 2014.

"Death Penalty in American Literature." Alderson-Broaddus University. 2013.

"Doubtful Security: The Death Penalty and American Performance." University of Utah. Tanner Humanities Center. 2009.

"Lessons from the Appalachian Prison Book Project." Homecoming Lectures. West Virginia University. Morgantown, WV. 2007.

Organized Conference Panels

"Freeing Minds, Building Community." Poverty and the Criminal Justice System. WV Coalition for Criminal Law Reform. January 2021.

Prison Abolition in Twentieth-Century American Autobiographical Literature. Modern Language Association Conference. Chicago. January 2014.

Innocence and Complicity. American Studies Association. Albuquerque. October 2008.

The Death Penalty and Twentieth-Century American Literature. Midwest Modern Language Association Conference. Cleveland. Nov. 2007.

Select Conference Presentations

"High Tech, Low Accountability: How Do We Fight Back Against Prison Tablets and Prison Censorship." National Conference on Higher Education in Prison. Saint Louis 2019.

"Partnering with Other Related Groups." Books to Prisoners National Conference. Boston. April 2019.

"Prison Book Clubs: Reading Utopias, Writing Worlds" (Pecha Kucha). *Imagining America*. Chicago. November 2018.

"Thirteen Years of Community Organizing: The Appalachian Prison Book Project." Midwest Modern Language Association. Cincinnati. November 2017.

"*Work & Hope* and the West Virginia State Penitentiary." Midwest Modern Language Association Conference. Cleveland. November 2015.

"Teaching Without a Net: Resources for Teachers in Nontraditional Classrooms." Association for Writers and Writing Programs Conference. Minneapolis. March 2015.

"Maria Parker and the Women's Department at the West Virginia State Penitentiary." National Women's Studies Association Conference. Cincinnati. November 2013.

"Lines Behind Bars: Poetry from Prisons Concrete and Intangible." Split This Rock Conference. Washington, D.C. April 2014.

"Abolitionist Imagination and American Literature." Rethinking Prisons Conference. Vanderbilt University 3-5 May 2013.

"Patriotic Dissent as Civic Engagement: Political and Protest Theatre after 9/11." Association for Theatre in Higher Education Conference. Washington D.C. 2-5 August 2012.

"A View of *The Brig*: From the Cage to the Street." American Studies Association Conference. Baltimore. 20-23 October 2011.

"Linking Prisons and Universities: A Roundtable Discussion." American Studies Association Conference. San Antonio. 18-21 November 2010.

"The Death Penalty and Innocence on Trial." American Studies Association Conference. Albuquerque. 16-19 October 2008.

"The Exonerated and the Executed." Midwest Modern Language Association Conference. Cleveland. 8-11 November 2007.

"'Barbarous Acts That Have Outraged the Conscience': Human Rights and Twentieth-Century American Literature." Midwest Modern Language Association Conference. Chicago. 6-9 November 2006.

"Performance and Public Policy: Contemporary Experiments in Democracy." International

Conference on Diversity in Organizations, Communities, and Nations. New Orleans. 12-17 June 2006.

"Taking Time in Malcolm Braly's *On the Yard*." Pop Culture Association and American Culture Association Conference. San Diego. 23- 26 March 2005.

RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS

West Virginia Humanities Council Fellowship	2015
Visiting Research Fellow, Tanner Humanities Center, University of Utah	2008 - 2009
Harry Ransom Center Dorot Fellowship, University of Texas, Austin	2008
WVU Riggle Fellowship for the Humanities	2002
WVU Faculty Senate Research Grant	2001, 2015

OTHER PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITY

Peer-reviewed Articles

"Horizons of Grace: Marilynne Robinson and Simone Weil." *Philosophy and Literature* 29.2 (Oct. 2005): 349-364. Rpt. In *Contemporary Literary Criticism*. Vol. 276. Ed. Jeffrey Hunter (Detroit: Gale Group, 2009).

"Falling in Public: Larsen's *Passing*, McCarthy's *The Group*, and Baldwin's *Another Country*." *Studies in the Novel* 36.1 (Spring 2004): 95-119.

"Revolutionary Suicide in Toni Morrison's Fiction." *African American Review* 34.3 (2000): 389-412. Rpt. in *Critical Voices on Toni Morrison*. Eds. Meenakshi F. Paul and Khem Raj Sharma (New Delhi: Authors Press, 2015).

"No Less Human': Making History in Suzan-Lori Parks's *The America Play*." *Journal of Dramatic Theory and Criticism* 7.2 (May 1999): 81-94. Rpt. in *Dramatic Criticism* Vol. 23 (Detroit: Gale Group, 2004).

Moran, Charlie, et. al. "Opening the Classroom Door: Peer Visits in the Composition Classroom." *Journal of Teaching Writing* 15.2 (Fall 1998): 175-193.

Review. Lucille Clifton, *The Terrible Stories* in *Sojourner: The Women's Forum* Sept. 1997: 44.

Conferences

"Revolutionary Suicide in Toni Morrison's Fiction." International Conference on Narrative. Houston, TX. 8-11 March 2001.

"War, Women, and Colonialism in Performance." National Women's Studies Association. Boston, MA. 9-13 June 2000.

Creative Publications

"Assurance of God" (short story). *Denver Quarterly* 35.4 (2001): 121-27.

"A Body's Mind Experience in Tim Miller's Workshop" (personal essay). *Theatre Topics* 7.2 (Sept. 1997): 205-207.

“As For Now Passing” (poem). *Women’s Studies Quarterly* 21.1-2 (June 1993): 171-172.

Prizes

“The Seventh Circle” (personal essay). *Atlantic Monthly* Student Writing Contest. Third Prize. 1998.

Graduate Teaching

ENGL 692	Directed Studies
ENGL 691A	Advanced Topics: Capstone Mentoring
ENGL 631	Studies in Nonfiction Prose
ENGL 634	Studies in Drama

Undergraduate Teaching

ENGL 349	Contemporary American Literature
ENGL 348	Twentieth-Century American Literature
ENGL 342	American Drama
ENGL 337	Major Author: Samuel Beckett
ENGL 273	Contemporary British and American Literature
ENGL 234	Modern Drama
ENGL 200	Foundations in Literary Study

Service to College and University

Eberly College Faculty Advisory Committee	2020-present
Eberly Public Outreach and Service Award	2017
Heebink Public Service Award	2015, 2016, 2017
Faculty Advisor, APBP Student Organization	2004-2014, 2016-present
Faculty Senator	2007-2013
Student Rights and Responsibilities Committee	2013
Student Evaluation of Instruction Committee	2010
Public Service Grant Committee	2006
Women’s Studies Search Committee	2004
Faculty Advisor, <i>Iota Iota Iota</i>	2001-2003

Service to English Department

English Advisory Committee	2018-present
Undergraduate Program Committee	2014-2018
Academic Advisor to Majors	2005-2007, 2011-2014
Faculty Evaluation Committee	2001-2002, 2007-2008, 2009-2011, 2013-2015, 2018
Faculty Search Committee	2002, 2012
M.A. Admissions Committee	2002, 2013
Ph.D. Admissions Committee	2005, 2016, 2018
Graduate Faculty Committee	2002, 2004
ProSeminar Committee	2004, 2010
Judge, Graduate Student Writing Contest	2006
Steering Committee, Student Literature Colloquium	2005
Judge, Ninth Annual Undergraduate Symposium	2001
Coordinator, Expository Writing Contest	2001

Service to the Academic Profession

Reviewer, <i>Pacific Coast Philology</i>	2017
Reviewer, <i>African American Review</i>	2006-2017
Reviewer, <i>MELUS: Multi-Ethnic Literatures of the U.S.</i>	2013-2017
Reviewer <i>Theatre Topics</i>	2000-2008
Assistant Editor <i>Theatre Topics</i>	1996-1998, 1999-2000