

**Updated August 2025**

**SHIRLEY TOLAND-DIX**

**Background**

1. **Education:** Emory University, Ph.D. in English, 2001.

Emory University, Certificate in Women's Studies, 2001.

Auburn University, MA in English, 1983.

Howard University, MA in English Program, Sept. 1976-Dec. 1977.

Tuskegee University, BA in English, 1976.

2. **Experience**

- A. **Academic:** Associate Professor, Department of English and Philosophy, Auburn University Montgomery, 2022 -.

Assistant Professor, Department of English and Philosophy,  
Auburn University Montgomery, 2016-2022.

Assistant Professor, Department of English, University of South  
Florida, 2004-2013.

Assistant Professor (non tenure-track), Department of English,  
Spelman College, 2001-2004.

Visiting Professor, Institute for Women's Studies, Emory  
University, Spring Semester 2003.

Instructor, Department of English, Spelman College, 1994-2001.

Visiting Professor, Department of English, University of Notre  
Dame, Spring Semester 1994.

Instructor, English Department, Tuskegee University, 1987-1989.

Instructor, English Department and Applied Writing Division,  
Auburn University, 1983-1987.

- B. **Other Professional:** Consultant, United Negro College Fund /  
Andrew Mellon Programs, 2014-2016.

Associate Director, UNCF / Mellon Summer Institute at Emory  
University, 2002-2010.

UNCF/Mellon Associate Coordinator, University of Cape Town / Mellon Foundation Mini Summer Institute in Cape Town, South Africa, 2003-2009.

Graduate Research Assistant, Martin Luther King, Jr. Papers Project, Emory University, 1991-1993.

## Scholarly and Creative Productivity

### Publications

#### B. Refereed / Invited Publications

##### a. Book Chapters

“This is the Horse. Will You Ride?": Zora Neale Hurston, Erna Brodber and Rituals of Spirit Possession." *Just Below South: Intercultural Performance in the Caribbean and the U.S. South*. Jessica Adams, Michael P. Bibler, and Cecile Accilien, eds., 2007.

“The Anancy Poetics of Scholar/Novelist Erna Brodber." *The Caribbean Woman Writer as Scholar: Imagining / Theorizing / Creating*. Keshia Abraham and Carole Boyce Davies, eds., 2009. (Invited)

“Zora Neale Hurston, Haiti, and the Challenge of Black Atlantic Identity." *The Inside Light': New Critical Essays on Zora Neale Hurston*. Deborah Plant, 2010. (Invited)

“Meridian and We Are the Ones We Have Been Waiting For: Alice Walker's Abiding Vision of the Spiritual Warrior." *Alice Walker – Critical Insights*. Nagueyalti Warren, ed., 2013.

“The Other Half of the Story: Valuing the Vision of Black Atlantic Women." *Critical Approaches to Literature: Multicultural Criticism*. Robert Evans, 2017. (Invited)

##### b. Journal Articles

“Re-Negotiating Racial Identities: The Challenge of Migration and Return in Michelle Cliff's *No Telephone to Heaven*." *Studies in the Literary Imagination*. Vol. 37:2, Fall 2004.

“The Hills of Hebron: Sylvia Wynter's Disruption of the Narrative of the Nation." *Small Axe: A Caribbean Journal of Criticism*. Vol. 25, February 2008.

“Caliban and Prospero Revisited in Paule Marshall's *The Chosen Place, the*

*Timeless People.*” *Anthurium: A Caribbean Studies Journal*. Vol. 14, Spring 2017.

“Black Women’s Lives Matter: Coming to Consciousness Through Ntozake Shange’s Embodied Feminism.” *CLA Journal*. Vol. 61. Spring 2020.

“Literary Archaeologies of Black Rebel Women: Grace Nichols’ *I is a long memoried woman* and Nagueyalti Warren’s *Margaret*.” *Studies in American Culture (SIAC)*. October 2021.

#### **4. Participation in Professional Meetings**

##### **NATIONAL:**

“‘Where Do I Belong?’: Antoinette’s Dilemma in Jean Rhys’s *Wide Sargasso Sea*..” Southeast Women’s Studies Association Annual Meeting, University of North Carolina at Charlotte, Charlotte, NC, April 1992.

“Replacing the ‘True, True Name’: Negotiating Loss and Transition in Crick Crack, Monkey and Beka Lamb.” College Language Association (CLA) Annual Convention, Southern University – Baton Rouge LA, April 1995.

“Retrospection and Prophecy in Sylvia Wynter’s The Hills of Hebron.” CLA Annual Convention, Winston-Salem NC, April 1996.

“Caribbean Women Writers Challenging Gendered Constructions of National Identity.” Southern Humanities Council Annual Conference, Huntingdon College – Montgomery AL, March 1998.

“Matrilineal Discontinuity and Cultural Confusion: Seeking Coherence and Control in Paule Marshall’s The Chosen Place, The Timeless People.” CLA Annual Convention, Florida A & M University – Tallahassee FL, April 1998.

“Not a Woman’s Story: Negotiating the Interloper in Sylvia Wynter’s *The Hills of Hebron*.” Ninth Annual British Commonwealth and Postcolonial Studies Conference, Georgia Southern University – Savannah GA, February 2000.

“Inscribing Creolization in the Caribbean Woman’s *Bildungsroman*: Zee Edgell’s *Beka Lamb*.” Narrative: An International Conference, Emory University and Georgia Institute of Technology – Atlanta GA, April 2000.

“‘Mulatto Angst’ in the U.S.A.: The Challenge of Migration and Assimilation in Michelle Cliff’s *No Telephone to Heaven*.” Eleventh Annual

British Commonwealth and Postcolonial Conference, Georgia Southern University — Savannah GA, February 2002.

“The Language of Yearning: Paradoxical Portrayals of Caribbean Motherhood.” 29<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Southern Comparative Literature Association, University of Texas — Austin, TX, September 2003.

“On Becoming a Black Woman: Transnational Space and Identity in Michelle Cliff’s *No Telephone to Heaven*. 2<sup>nd</sup> Association for the Study of the Worldwide African Diaspora (ASWAD) Conference, Northwestern University -- Evanston, IL, October 2003.

“Telling Our Own Stories: Women’s Activism Through Writing Narrative.” 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Toni Cade Bambara Scholar-Activism Conference, Spelman College – Atlanta, GA, March 2004.

“The Anancy Poetics of Scholar/Novelist Erna Brodber.” 10<sup>th</sup> International Conference of the Association of Caribbean Women Writers and Scholars, Florida International University – Miami, FL, May 2006.

“The Anancy Poetics of Caribbean Women Writers: The Case of Scholar/Novelist Erna Brodber.” Modern Language Association (MLA) Conference, Philadelphia, PA, December 2006.

“Reading Toni Morrison’s *Paradise* as a Postcolonial Deconstruction of the Narrative of the Nation.” American Literature Association Conference, Boston, MA, May 2009.

“Paule Marshall’s Representation of Caliban and Prospero in *The Chosen Place, the Timeless People*.” CLA Annual Conference, Tulane University – New Orleans, LA, March 2014.

“Sites of Black Atlantic Memory in Paule Marshall’s *The Chosen Place, the Timeless People*.” 25<sup>th</sup> Annual American Literature Association Conference, Washington, D. C., May 2014.

“Archaeologies of Black Women’s Memory: Grace Nichols’ *I is a long memoried woman* and Nagueyalti Warren’s *Margaret*.” Furious Flower: Seeding the Future of African American Poetry Conference, James Madison University – Harrisburg, VA, September 2014.

“Poetry and Archaeologies of Black Women’s Memory: Grace Nichols’ *I is a long memoried Woman* and Nagueyalti Warren’s *Margaret*.” CLA

Annual Conference, Southern Methodist University – Dallas, TX, April 2015.

“‘Hundreds of Slender Threads Connecting’: Sites of Memory in Paule Marshall’s Novels of the Black Atlantic Diaspora.” Association for the Study of the Worldwide African Diaspora (ASWAD) Conference, College of Charleston – Charleston, SC, November 2015.

“Theorizing Black Atlantic Feminism: Envisioning Liberatory Community.” CLA Annual Conference, University of Houston – Houston, TX, April 2016.

“Creating Dangerously: Edwidge Danticat’s *The Farming of Bones* – Fictional *Testimonio*/Haunting Love Story.” American Literature Association Conference, San Francisco, CA, May 2016.

“*Wash*: Margaret Wrinkle’s Contemporary Narrative of Slavery.” Southern Studies Conference, Auburn University Montgomery, Montgomery, AL. February 2017.

“Transcendence and Spiritual Love in Toni Morrison’s *Paradise*.” South Atlantic Modern Language Association (SAML) Conference, Atlanta, GA. November 2017.

“Generational Healing in Elizabeth Nunez’s *Not for Everyday Use*,” International Conference on Caribbean Literature. Atlanta, GA, November 2021.

*The Chosen Place, the Timeless People*: Paule Marshall’s Prophetic Epic of the Black Atlantic,” College Language Association(CLA), Vancouver, WA, April 2025. (Panel Chair)

#### **INTERNATIONAL:**

"Ancestral Stories and Sacred Ritual: Transmuting Death and Centering Life in Ayanna Lloyd Banwo's, *When We Were Birds*." Caribbean Studies Association (CSA) Conference, St. Croix, Virgin Islands. June 2023.

“The Complexities of Healing and Redemption in Edwidge Danticat’s *The Dew Breakers*.” Caribbean Studies Association (CSA) Conference, University of the West Indies, Mona, Jamaica campus. June 2022.

“Caribbean Poetics of Affect: Grace Nichols’ *I is a Long Memored Woman*.” West Indian Literature Conference, University of the West Indies, St. Augustine, Trinidad campus. October 2017. (Panel chair)

“Archaeologies of Enslaved Resistance: Rebel Women in Grace Nichols’ *I is a long memoried woman* and Nagueyalti Warren’s *Margaret*.” MLA Conference, Vancouver, British Columbia, January 2015.

“Edwidge Danticat’s *The Farming of Bones*: Interrogations of History and the Fictional *Testimonio*.” 4th ASWAD Conference, University of the West Indies – Cave Hill, Barbados. October 2007.

“The Anancy Poetics of African Diasporic Women Writers.” 3<sup>rd</sup> Association for the Study of the Worldwide African Diaspora (ASWAD) Conference. Rio de Janeiro, Brazil; October 2005.

“Re-Negotiating Racial Identities: The Challenge of Migration and Return in Michelle Cliff’s *No Telephone to Heaven*.” 28th Annual Caribbean Studies Association Conference; Belize City, Belize, May 2003

“The Complexities of Healing and Redemption in Edwidge Danticat’s *The Dew Breakers*.” Caribbean Studies Association (CSA) Conference, University of the West Indies, Mona, Jamaica campus. June 2022.

“Sylvia Wynter’s *The Hills of Hebron*: Situating Women Within the Narrative of the Nation.” Sixth International Conference of Caribbean Women Writers and Scholars, Grand Anse, Grenada, May 1998.

## 5. **Invited Lectures and Presentations**

“Caribbean Women Writers: Negotiating Postcolonialism and Feminism.” English Colloquia Series. Emory University – Atlanta GA, March 1995.

“Sylvia Wynter: Jamaican Woman Writing the Narrative of the Nation.” Women’s Studies Colloquium, Emory University – Atlanta GA, November 1995.

“*Crick Crack, Monkey* and *Beka Lamb*: Disruption and Revision in the Caribbean Woman’s *Bildungsroman*,” Women’s Studies Colloquium, Emory University – Atlanta GA, October 2001.

“‘This is the Horse. Will You Ride?’: Zora Neale Hurston, Erna Brodber, and Rituals of Spirit Possession.” Africana Studies Department Brown Bag Lunch Series, University of South Florida – Tampa, FL, October 2004.

“‘Half the Story Has Never Been Told’: Caribbean Women and the Representation of History.” New Faculty Presentation -- Humanities Institute, University of South Florida, Tampa, FL, September 2008.

“Literature and History in the Contemporary Narrative of Slavery.” Literature and History Panel sponsored by the Humanities Institute,

English Department and History Department, University of South Florida,  
Tampa, Fl, November 2008.

“The Other Half of the Story: Valuing the Vision of Women.” Frank J. Toland Memorial Lecture Series, Tuskegee University, Tuskegee, Al, March 2011.