

## Curriculum Vitae

### 1. Dorothy L. Denniston

Associate Professor

English Department

### 2. Home Address

223 Transit Street

Providence, Rhode Island 02906

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### 3. Education

B.A., Northeastern University, English, 1967

M.A., Simmons College, English, 1975

Ph.D., Brown University, English, 1983

Dissertation: "Cultural Reclamation: The Development of a Pan-African Sensibility in the Fiction of Paule Marshall"

### 4. Professional Appointments

Associate Professor, Brown University, 1994-present; courtesy appointment with African American Studies Department, 2000-

Associate Dean of the College, Brown University, 1995-1996; 1999-2000

Assistant Professor, Brown University, 1988-1994

Visiting Cole Junior Professor of English, Wheaton College, Norton, Massachusetts, Fall 1993

Visiting Assistant Professor, Brown University, 1987-1988

Howard Post-doctoral Fellow, Brown University, 1986-1987

Assistant Professor, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, 1983-1986

Associate Dean of the College, Simmons College, 1974-1980 (leave of absence - 1978-1979); Joint appointment as Instructor of English, 1979-1980

Instructor of Freshman English, Simmons College, 1973-

Assistant to the Director of Admissions, Simmons College, 1972-1973

### 5. Book:

Imaginative Reconstruction: History, Culture and Gender in the Fiction of Paule Marshall (Knoxville: University of Tennessee Press, 1994)

### Chapters in Books:

"Glimpses of Barbadian Culture in Paule Marshall's Brown Girl, Brownstones," in Robert Perry and Lillian Ashcraft-Eason, (eds.) Ethnic America: An Ethnic

Studies Reader (DuBuque, Iowa: Kendall / Hunt Publishing Co.), Fall 1996.

Refereed Journal articles:

"Paule Marshall: Literary Genius/" in Black Women in America, 2nd Ed., Darlene Clark Hine, ed. (New York: Oxford University Press, 2005).

"Early Short Fiction by Paule Marshall," Callaloo, 18: 31-45, Spring 1984; rpt. in Short Story Criticism, Gale Research Co., 1990.

"Faulkner's Image of Blacks in Go Down, Moses," Phylon (March 1983).

Contributing editor:

Entry on Paule Marshall's "To Da-Duh: In Memoriam," in The Heath Anthology of American Literature, Vol. 2, 2nd edition (New York: D.C. Heath and Co., 1994), 2181-2183; updated in 1996).

"Paule Marshall," in Darlene Clark Hine, Elsa Barkley Brown and Rosalyn Terborg-Penn (eds.) Black Women in America: An Historical Encyclopedia (New York: Carlson Publishing Co., 1992) 747-748; rpt. in Darlene Clark Hine, ed.. The Facts on File Resource Collection on Black Women (Brooklyn, New York: Carlson Publishing, Inc.), 1995.

"Paule Marshall" (biographical and critical synopsis of Marshall's fiction) in Lina Mainiero (ed.) American Women Writers: A Critical Reference Guide from Colonial Times to the Present, Vol. 3 (New York: Frederick Ungar Publishing Co., 1980); updated in Carol Hurd Green and Mary G. Mason (eds.) American Women Writers Supplement (Vol. 5), 1992.

Book Review:

Places of Silence, journeys of Freedom: The Fiction of Paule Marshall, by Eugenia C. DeLamotte, University of Pennsylvania Press, 1998, in African American Review, Vol. 34, No. 2 (Summer 2000), 357-359.

Invited Lectures:

"Superimposition of Cultures in Selected Works by Paule Marshall," Alumni Program, Atlanta, Georgia, January 2001

"Selected Fiction by Toni Morrison and Paule Marshall," Institute for the Recruitment of Teachers (I.R.T.), Phillips Academy, Andover, Massachusetts, July 1996

"African-American Women Novelists" Institute for the Recruitment of Teachers, Phillips Academy, July 1995.

"Beyond Bildungsroman: The Artistry of Paule Marshall in Brown Girl, Brownstones," Simmons College, Boston, Massachusetts, January, 1994.

"Writing Women Artists," Rhode Island School of Design, April 1993.

"Anatomy of an African Aesthetic in Paule Marshall's Fiction," Annual African-American History Celebration, Berkeley Teleservice Center, Department of Health and Human Services, Berkeley, California, February 1990.

"A Tribute to Black Women Writers," Third World Center, Brown University, December 1990

"The Poetry of Langston Hughes," Seminar on Teaching Methods, M.A.T. Program, Department of Education, Brown University, Summers of 1988 and 1989

"African-American Women Novelists," Graduate Seminar in American Civilization, Brown University, Fall 1988.

"Images of Women in Langston Hughes' 'Not Without Laughter,'" Langston Hughes Seminar, Afro-American Studies, Brown University, Fall 1987

Moderator/ Panelist:

Conversations in Africana Writing (with Ama Ata Aidoo, John Wideman and George Lamming), Brown University, Fall 2004.

"The Harlem Renaissance," Action Speaks (AS 220), Providence, Rhode Island, May 2004.

"Temples for Tomorrow: The Harlem Renaissance—New Readings and Contexts," Rhode Island College, May 7-8, 2004.

"A Celebration of Black History Month: The Harlem Renaissance," Salve Regina University, Newport, Rhode Island, February 2004.

Co-chair, "Return Migrations: Writing the Journey Home," Special Session sponsored by C.L.A., Annual Convention of the Modern Language Association, San Francisco, California, December 1998.

Annual National Dorothy Danforth Compton Fellows Conference, Brown University, 1983; University of Texas at Austin, 1985; University of California at Los Angeles, 1994.

"Current Crisis of Caribbean Development," Brown University, Spring 1992.

Session Chair, "Dramatic and Fictional Depictions of Interracial Relations," Convention of the College Language Association, April 1996.

Moderator, "African-American and Caribbean Children's Literature: History and Culture," Convention of the Modern Language Association, Toronto, Canada, December 1993.

Papers Read:

"The Transformation and Re-creation of Female Identity in Paule Marshall's Daughters," Reunion Conference of the Ford Foundation Fellows, Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania, June 1995.

"Ensuring the Success of Junior Faculty," Seventh Biennial Conference of the Dorothy Danforth Compton Graduate Fellows Program, University of California, Los Angeles, April 1995.

"Redefining/Reinventing the African Diaspora," Convention of the College Language Association, Durham, North Carolina, April 1994.

"Dimensions of Diaspora in Paule Marshall's Fiction: Revisionist Readings of Space and Place," NEMLA Convention, Buffalo, New York, April 1992.

"Cultural Reclamation in Selected Works by Paule Marshall," Convention of the Modern Language Association, New Orleans, Louisiana, December 1988.

"New Directions in Black Women's Literature," Convention of the South Atlantic Modern Language Association, Atlanta, Georgia, October 1985.

"Brown Girl, Brownstones: The Female Quest for Cultural Identity," Convention of the College Language Association, Nashville, Tennessee, April 1984

"Sable Queens in Bondage: The Black Woman in American Slave Narratives," Ethnic and Minority Studies Conference, University of Wisconsin, LaCrosse, April 1977; adapted and revised as "Autobiographical Writing of Third World Women," Conference of the National Women's Studies Association, University of Connecticut, June 1981

#### 6. Research in Progress:

Women Writers of the African Diaspora  
Multi-cultural Voices in Fiction  
The Jazz Age vs. The Harlem Renaissance  
Black Feminist Theory

#### 7. Service to the University:

Participant, "Homeland Insecurity: The Changing Face of Immigration," Providence Journal/Brown University Public Affairs Conference, Brown University, April 2004.

Faculty Usher, Baccalaureate Service, May 2000-05

Member, Campus Advisory Board, Office of the Vice President for Campus Affairs, Fall 2004-present.

Member, Faculty Sub-committee on Diversity and Hiring, Fall 2004-05.

Member, Strategic Planning Committee for the Third World Center, organized by the Vice President for Student Affairs, Fall 2002

Site Visit for the Office of International Programs, University of Cape Town, Cape Town, South Africa, August 2000

Member, Affirmative Action Committee, 2000-03.

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Member, University Disciplinary Committee, 2000-03

Member, Selection Committee, Mellon Minority Undergraduate Fellowship Program, Brown University, 1999-present

Member, Selection Committee, Royce Fellowship Program, 2000-02.

Member, Wayland Collegium, 2000-present.

Consultant, Mellon Minority Undergraduate Program, Office of the Dean of the College, Brown University, 2000-2001

Faculty Advisor on Racial and Ethnic Harassment Complaints, 1999-present.

Moderator/Respondent, National Conference sponsored by the Social Science Research Council and the Mellon Foundation, Brown University, June 24-27 1999.

Member of Advisory Group and Faculty Participant, Wayland Collegium Conference: The Meaning of Race and Blackness in the Americas, Brown University, Summer 1999-February 2000

Faculty Advisor, UTRA Program, Summer 1999; Summer 2000; Summer 2005

Member, Selection Committee, Minority Peer Counselors, Third World Center, March 1999

Member, Search Committee for African Americanist, English Department, December 1998

Mace Bearer, Special Convocation for the Prime Minister of Jamaica, April 1998

Concentration Adviser, 1993-present

Guest Lecturer, "Intimate Violence," Points on the Compass Freshman Orientation Program, August 1996

Director of Introductory Courses, 1996-1997

Member, Search Committee for Twentieth-Century Americanist, 1996

Course Supervisor, English I and 4, 1996-1997

Member, Curriculum Committee, English Department, 1996-1997

Chair, Committee on Minority Affairs and Concerns, 1996-1997; Member, 1994-1996

Member, Committee on Faculty Reappointment and Tenure, 1996-1997

Guest Speaker, "Life After Graduate School," Graduate Minority Student Forum, Brown University, November 1996

Guest Speaker, Black History Month, Third World Center, February 1996

Faculty Participant, Points on the Compass, Freshman Orientation, August 1996

Member, Committee on Brown-Tougaloo Exchange Program, 1994-present.

Chair, Executive Committee, Mellon Minority Undergraduate Fellowship Program, 1996-1997; member, 2000-Present.

Member, Advisory Board and Selection Committee, Undergraduate Teaching and Research Assistantships, 1995-

Member, Governance Board, Third World Center, 1990-

Campus Coordinator, Andrew Mellon Minority Undergraduate Fellows Program, 1995-1996

Sophomore Advisor, 1995-1996

Member, Committee on Academic Standing, 1995-1996

Member, Search Committee for University Provost, 1995

Member, Ethnic Studies Committee, 1994-1995

Member, Senate, English Department, 1994-1995; 1990-1991

Director, M.A.T. Program in English and Member of Graduate Admissions Committee, Department of Education, 1994

Course Director, English 18, 1994

Member, Advocacy Program, Chaplain's Office, Fall 1994

Lectureship Committee, 1993-1994

Freshman Adviser, 1992

Sophomore Adviser, 1993

Associate Faculty Fellow, Fall 1993

Department Representative, Admissions Office Program for Prospective Third World Students, 1993

Keynote Speaker, Onyx Commencement Celebration, May 1993 and 1994

Member, Selection Committee for Senior Honors Research Grants, Center for the Study of Race and Ethnicity in America, 1992-1994

Instructor, Brown Learning Community, 1992,1994

CAP Adviser, Fall 1992

Member, Women's Studies Steering Committee, 1989-1992

Instructor, MEDAC Program, Division of Biology and Medicine, Summer, 1992 and 1993

Keynote Speaker, Parents' Commencement Brunch, Onyx Society, May 1991,1996

Service to the Profession:

Reviewer, Melus (University of Connecticut, Storrs), Fall, 2004.

Faculty Participant, Leadership Alliance Symposium, "Careers in Research: Strategies and Choices," Stone Mountain, Georgia, July 2002

Faculty Representative, Abafazi's Tenth Anniversary Celebration and Symposium, "Classroom Action, Community Activism: Empowering Ourselves, Students and Communities, Department of Africana Studies and the Dean of the College, Simmons College, The African Meeting House, Boston, Massachusetts, June 2002

Reviewer, Frontiers^ A Journal of Women Studies, University of Washington, Seattle, Washington, 1995-

Reviewer for Signs: Journal of Women in Culture and Society, University of Chicago, 1996-

Reviewer, Novel, Brown University, 1986-1992

Member, Committee on the Literatures and Languages of America, Modern Language Association, 1996-1999

The College Board, Member of ATP Development Committee (English Achievement Test) 1983-1988; Reader, English Composition Test, 1983-1988

Member, Editorial Board, Abafazi: The Simmons College Review of Women of African Descent, 1991-2003.

Associate Editor, Langston Hughes Review, Brown University, 1991-1993

Faculty Representative, Dorothy Danforth Compton Fellowship Program, 1991-1994

Service to the Community:

Reader, Langston Hughes Centennial Celebration, Sponsored by the Langston Hughes Society, Rhode Island School of Design, February (2001-present).

Associate Editor, The Pepperbird, 1998-

Seminar Leader. "The Black Novel and Film," Community Reading and Viewing Project, Langston Hughes Center for the Arts, Providence, Rhode Island, September 1996

Seminar Leader, "The Black Intellectual," sponsored by the Langston Hughes Center for the Arts and the United Black and Brown Fund, Providence, Rhode Island, June 1995

Seminar Leader. "The Black Male: Endangered Species," sponsored by the Langston Hughes Center for the Arts, East Providence Public Library, December 1993

Guest Speaker, "Langston Hughes and Jesse B. Semple," High School Workshop Series sponsored by the Langston Hughes Center for the Arts. Central High School, Mt. Pleasant High School, Rogers High School, April-May, 1993.

Guest speaker, "Langston Hughes, the Dream Keeper," High School Workshop Series sponsored by the Langston Hughes Center for the Arts in celebration of the 90th anniversary of the birth of Langston Hughes. Central High School,

February 1992; East Providence High School, April 1992; Mt. Pleasant High School, May 1993; Rogers High School, Newport, Rhode Island, May 1992

Guest speaker and discussion leader, "Black Fiction: Facts of Life," Community Reading Project, sponsored by the Langston Hughes Center for the Arts, Congdon Street Baptist Church, Providence, and the Community Center of Newport, Rhode Island, May and June 1992

Seminar Leader, "The Black Family," Community Reading Project, Langston Hughes Center for the Arts, May 1991

Seminar Leader, "Black Autobiography," Community Reading Project, Langston Hughes Center for the Arts, May 1990

Instructor, "Chant of Saints," Seminar for High School Teachers in Northeast Region, sponsored by the Department of Education, Brown University, Spring 1989

Seminar Leader, "Black Women and Class," Community Reading Project, Newport, Rhode Island, sponsored by the Langston Hughes Center for the Arts, May 1988

8. Academic Honors and Awards:



Award for Exemplary Leadership, Dedication and Service, Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship Program, New York, New York, March 2004.

Faculty Mentor Book Award, Mellon Mays Undergraduate Program, Brown University, 2003, 2004, 2005

Faculty Mentor, Alliance for International Research for Minority Students, University of the Western Cape, Cape Town, South Africa, Summer 2000.

Excellence in Teaching Award, Onyx Society, Brown University, May 1999; May 2000

Faculty Mentor, Alliance International Research for Minority Scholars, Summer 2000

U.T.R.A Grant, Brown University, Summer and Fall 1996; Summer 2000

Fellow, Ford Foundation, Summer Seminar for College Professors, Center for the

Study of Black Literature and Culture, University of Pennsylvania, June 1993

Outstanding Service and Dedication to the Community, Awarded by Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Brown University, May 1991

Wriston Fellowship Award for Excellence in Teaching, Brown University, Fall 1991

Fellow, Coolidge Colloquium, Episcopal Divinity School, Harvard University, June-July 1990

Odyssey Research Grant, Brown University, Summer 1988

Howard Post-doctoral Fellow, Department of English, Brown University, 1986-1987

Faculty Research Grant, Graduate School, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, Summer 1985

J. Hodges Faculty Research Award, Department of English, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, Summer 1984

Dorothy Danforth Compton Fellow, Brown University, 1982-1983

Dissertation Research Grant, University of the West Indies (Cave Hill), Barbados, awarded by the Graduate School, Brown University, May 1979

The National Fellowships Fund Award, Atlanta, Georgia, 1976-1979

Cited in Who's Who Among Black Americans

## 9. Teaching

Fall 2005: Sabbatical

Spring 2005: EL 71 (01) Introduction to African American Literature: 1924-Present

20 Students

EL 176 (08) Mediating Color in African American Literature

7 Students

Second Reader for two Honor's Theses

Mellon Mays Minority Fellowship Program, Summer Research Institute, Brown

University, Summer 2004 (17 students); Summer 2003 (15 students)

Fall 2004: EL 171 (03) African American Women Novelists)

25 students

EL 171 (01) Harlem Renaissance

18 students

Second Reader for 3 Honors Theses

Fall 2002: EL 176 (Mediating Color in African American Literature)

18 students

EL276 (Sexual and Racial Politics: African American

Novelist

7 students (including one visiting exchange student)

Fall 2001: EL 176 (Mediating Color in African American Literature)

12 students

EL 171 (Harlem Renaissance)

28 students (4 M.A.T/s)

Fall 2000: EL 35 (Survey of African American Literature, 1740-1926)

30 students

EL 261 (Sexual and Racial Politics: African American Women  
Novelists, 4 students

Advisor to 1 Honors Thesis

(Academic Year 1999-2000: half-time teaching, half-time administration)

Fall 1999: EL 34 (African American Women Novelists) 33 undergraduates

1 Independent Reading and Research Project, The Black Middle-  
Class

Advisor to 1 Honors Thesis

Second Reader to Honors Thesis in Creative Writing

Spring 2000: EL 261 (Sexual and Racial Politics: African American Women

Novelists) 5 students

Fall 1998: EL 36 (Survey of African-American Literature: 1924-Present) 30  
students

EL 155 (The Harlem Renaissance) 35 undergraduates, 2 graduate

students

Independent Study: Children's Literature on African Americans  
Reader, Ph.D. dissertation (1)

(Academic Year 1997-1998 on Sabbatical Leave; Fall 1998, Leave on Special Assignment)

Member, Preliminary Examination Committees, 2 Ph.D. Candidates in English, August 1998

Supervisor, Graduate Bibliographic Research Project, Women Writers of the African Diaspora, Fall 1997-Spring 1998

Reader, Ph.D. dissertation (1)

Fall 1996: EL 35 (Survey of African American Literature, 1742-1924),  
30 undergraduate students

EL 261 (Studies in African-American Literature), 14 graduate students

Honors Theses (2); Second Reader, Ph.D. Thesis (1)

Spring 1997: EL 155 (The Harlem Renaissance)

EL 37 (African-American Women Novelists)

M.A. Thesis Director (2); GISP-Graduate (1); Field Director, Candidate for Ph.D., American Civilization (1)

(1995-1996 Academic Year: Associate Dean of the College)

Honors Theses (2); Faculty Mentor, Mellon Minority Undergraduate Fellows (3)

Fall 1994: EL 35 (African-American Women Novelists) 29 undergraduates

EL 155A (The Harlem Renaissance) 28 students

Honors Theses (2)

Spring 1995: EL 44 (Survey of African-American Literature, 1924-Present),  
35 students

EL 262 (Sexual and Racial Politics: African-American Women Novelists) 2 students

M.A. Thesis Director (1); Honors Theses (1)

Fall 1993: EL36 A (Survey of African-American Literature 1926-Present),  
35 students

EL 273A (Racial and Sexual Politics: African-American Women Novelists), 12 students

Spring 1994: EL 180, Independent Study (1)

EL147 (The Harlem Renaissance) 16 students

EL44A (African American Women Novelists), 31 students  
Honors Thesis (1); M.A. Thesis Director(1)

Date of Preparation: April 10, 2006