

Linda-Susan Beard, PhD  
Associate Professor of English  
Director of The Africana Studies Program

Bryn Mawr College  
101 North Merion Avenue  
Bryn Mawr, PA19010  
(610) 526-5318  
Fax: (610) 526-7477  
lbeard@brynmawr.edu

Education

1973-1979 Cornell University, PhD  
Dissertation: "Geographical and Metaphoric Africa in the Novels and Stories of Doris Lessing"  
Major Subject: Prose Fiction  
Minor Subject: Nineteenth Century  
Minor Subject: Comparative Literature  
1975 Cornell University, MA  
1973 Bennington College, BA Literature  
Senior Thesis: "The Hard-Fought Narrative Crises of Thomas Hardy"

Scholastic Honors

2015 The Rosabeth Moss Kanter Change Master Research Fund (President's Office award for serving as a major change agent at Bryn Mawr College)  
2005 Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters, King's College (for work in the integration of contemplative and intellectual literacy in the classroom)  
1986 Michigan State University Woman Achiever Award  
1984 Elected Lifetime Member of Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society

1969-1973 National Achievement Scholar

Courses Taught at Bryn Mawr College

(An asterisk designates a course I developed and added to the College curriculum. A ^ designates an existing course reformulated for the Africana curriculum. A & indicates a course I designed for the English Department. ^^ indicates a course I reformulated for the English Department.)

English 101-102 Freshman Seminar (2-semester sequence). I redesigned this with the theme of "Quest" from Genesis (1611 edition of KJB) to Bessie Head's A Question of Power  
English 104: "The Global Short Story" &  
English 250: "Methods of Literary Analysis"  
English 262: "African American Literature: Topics" ^  
English 263: "Toni Morrison and the Art of Narrative" \* &

English 264: "The Black Bard: Poetry in the African Diaspora"  
English 279: "Introduction to African Literature" ^  
English 362: "African American Literature: Hypercanonical Codes: Topics"  
English 379: "The African Griot[te]: Topics (often a single author focus) \*&  
English 381: "Post-Apartheid Literature" \*&  
English 388: "Contemporary African Fiction: Topics" \*&

### Grants and Fellowships

2013 Faculty Travel Award, Bryn Mawr College, \$3000 (For participation in "A Symposium Honoring the 40 anniversary of the publication of Bessie Head's Question of Power, Khamall Memorial Museum, Serowe, Botswana)

2010 U.S. Department of Education, \$1500 (For the development and teaching of a new course in Africana Studies in the 2009-10 academic year) Bryn Mawr was a member of the only consortium (with Penn, Haverford and Swarthmore) designated as a National Resource Center for African Studies that included a partnership between a research university and three liberal arts colleges.

2007-2008 Mellon TrCo Faculty Forum Seed Grant \$3000 (For a project entitled "The Legacy of Toni Cade Bambara: Intimations of Diasporan Identities for The Black Woman") Project deferred due to major motor accident

2006-2007 Bryn Mawr College Faculty Travel Award \$2500 (To support participation in BESSIEFEST2 conference papers given at the University of Botswana (Gaborone) and African Studies Centre of the University of Kwa-Zulu-Natal (Pietermaritzburg, South Africa) as well as a presentation at the Khamall Memorial Museum, Serowe, Botswana)

2004 Faculty Travel Award, Bryn Mawr College (Participation in BessieFest a celebration of the 70th birthday of Bessie Head in Gaborone and Serowe, Botswana, and Pietermaritzburg, Botswana)

1997-1998 Contemplative Practice Fellowship, \$10,000 Contemplative Mind in Society Project (Nathan Cummings Foundation and Fetzer Institute) Course Development Grant for a new, contemplative Bryn Mawr course on slavery, apartheid and the Holocaust. Selected first class of Contemplative Fellows. This is a program later administered by the ACLS. There

1985 Michigan Council for the Arts: "The Black Woman Writer and the Diaspora International Film Fest"

1984-1985 All University Research Initiation Grant, Michigan State University: "The Face of Apartheid"

1981-1982 Rockefeller Humanities Fellowship: "The Human Cost of Apartheid: Bridged Chasms in Contemporary Southern African Literature" (Interviews with banned and politically sensitive writers in South Africa as well as some in exile in Botswana. These could not be published at the time.)

1980 ACLS Travel Grant, Association for Commonwealth Literature and Language Studies Conference, University of the South Pacific, Suva, Fiji: "Doris Lessing and Bessie Head"

### Print Publications

2019 Expected publication Shifting Sandscapes: Bessie Head, In Her Own Words (under contract with Africa World Press) This is the definitive, annotated and authorized edition of Bessie Head's letters on which I have worked for decades. There are a number of conference

presentations and essays about this project in the US, Africa, and elsewhere. I have the following references:

Teaching Honors

- 1991 State of Michigan Teaching Excellence Award (Michigan Legislature)
- 1989 Fulbright Nomination, University of Zimbabwe

2009-2012 Member, Committee on Undergraduate Awards and Fellowships (Selection of finalists for Fulbright, Rhodes, Marshall, Watson; winners of the European, African, and Slaughter Fellowships)

April 2007 Organization of a Campus Wide TeachIn at Bryn Mawron Diversity (A 7-hour presentation by faculty from different departments about "diversity" as understood in their disciplinary context following troubling racial incidents on campus). I also proposed, in the college paper, that we consider a social justice course requirement in the curriculum. The upshot of the proposal was the Social Justice Pilot Project (SJPP.)

2006-2008

1989-1990 Member, African Studies Task Force: Designing the New Course for the Center for Integrative Studies  
1987-1990 Appointed Member, University Awards Committee (Distinguished Faculty Award Selection Committee)  
1987-1988 Coordinator and Founder, Black History Celebration Committee (Consortium of MSU Faculty, Administrators, Staff, and Students)  
1987-1988 Appointed Member, English Department Search Committee (Feminist Theory and 18th Century Literature)  
1987 Appointed Member and Co-Chair, Arts and Humanities Review Committee, College of Arts and Letters  
1987 Appointed Member, University Committee on New Faculty Orientation  
1986-1988 Appointed Member, MSU Minority Advisory Council to the President  
1986-1988 Elected Member, Department of English Policy Committee, Michigan State University (Committee on Appointments and Tenure)  
1985-1986 College Opportunity Prison Extension Faculty, Ionia Reformatory and Training Units (Taught one course per semester in African American literature to prison inmates)  
1984-1986 Elected Member, Women's Studies Coordinating Committee  
1984-1987 Elected Member, Faculty Professional Women's Association Board of Directors  
1984-1986 Elected Member, Modern Language Association Delegate Assembly  
1983-1987 Appointed Member, African Studies Center Outreach Committee  
1983-1984 Appointed Member, Race and Gender Issues Committee, College of Social Sciences  
1982-1987 Elected Member, African Studies Center Advisory Committee  
1981-1985 Elected Member, African Literature Division Executive, Modern Language Association  
1980-1982 Elected Member, Graduate Studies Committee, English Department, University of Notre Dame  
1980-1981 Elected Member, Executive Council, Notre Dame Chapter of the American Association of University Professors  
1979-1982 Elected Member, Executive Council of the African Literature Association  
1977-1979 Elected Member, Claremont College Faculty Senate  
(Executive Committee, 1978 - 1979)

#### Board Appointments and Elections

1992-1996 Elected Member, Michigan Humanities Council (State Agency of the National Endowment for the Humanities) [Chair, Strategic Planning for the NEH Triennial Proposal; 1994-1995]  
1989-1995 Elected Member, Board of Directors, Society for Values in Higher Education, Georgetown University

#### ACADEMIC CONSULTANCIES

##### Dissertations

2000-2003 External Dissertation Committee Member, Committee Chair for Ronit Frenkel, South African Literature, University of Arizona (Graduate Program in Comparative Cultures)  
1999-2000 External Dissertation Reader, Desiree Lewis, South African Literature, The University of Cape Town (Department of English)

Curriculum

1991 African American Literature Faculty Seminar, University of St. Thomas, St. Paul, Minnesota

1991 "Implementing Multiculturalism," Montcalm Community College Board of Directors

1989-1990 "Developing an African Humanities Course," Ferris State University

March 1988 "Broadening the Literature Curriculum," English Department, University of Michigan

October 1987 "Structuring a Course in Afro-American Literature Since World War II," Lansing Community College

Editorial

2018 Bloomsbury Press (U.K.)

2010-2012

Colloquium Organization

October 2012 Convener, Bessie Head and the Twice-Told

Reviews



r(i.97 ol)In June 2000, BSA (a) (7) (C) responded to a request for information from the FBI regarding the activities of the Boy Scouts of America in the United States. The information was provided to the FBI and is being released to you under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. 552 (a) (7) (C).

February 1991 "Doing the Right Thing": Life Beyond the Canon Wars," Saginaw Valley State University (KEYNOTE ADDRESS)

February 1991 "Cultural Ventriloquism: Teaching about the 'Other' as Object," Saginaw Valley State University

November 1990 "Implementing Multiculturalism in the 12 Curriculum," Washtenaw County Intermediate School District

October 1990 "Multiculturalism and the Contemporary Curriculum: Babelonia Revisited," Grand Rapids Community College (KEYNOTE ADDRESS)

October 1990 "Raw Bits: Reconstructing the Tale of Several Americas," Workshop on the Challenge of Professional Literatures," Grand Rapids Community College

April 1990 "African Story-telling from the 'Breast of the Earth': Teaching Africa in the US Classroom through the Arts," African Studies Center Outreach Workshop, Michigan State University

April 1990 "Can Jons and Other Exploding Devices: A Reconceptualization of 'America'," Northwestern

February 1986 "Baldwin's Go Tell It On the Mountain and the Power of the Black Church,"  
State of Michigan Library Series, Lansing

January 1986 "Martin Luther King and The Black Church," City of South Bend, Indiana  
Martin Luther King Commemoration

October 1985 "South African Literature and Holocaust Letters: A Double Dying," Siena  
Heights College Aquinas Lectures Series

September 1985 "Alan Paton and the Failure of Liberalism: 'Cry, the Beloved Country', Hope  
College Annual Faculty Retreat Presentation

August 1985 South African Literature and Culture: A Workshop, Pax Christi State Conference,  
Aquinas College

January 1984 "Linking African American and Black South African Literature," Martin  
Luther King Memorial, Wharton Center, Michigan State University

November 1983 "Black and White American Perceptions of Continental Africa," African Film  
Festival, Michigan State University

November 1983 "Black Women and the Academy: Journeywb-3.23.9 (-3.23. 9 (t)-3.38-3.2 (m)-Col)Tj 1.r

October 2018

March 2000 "Narrative Bridges: Perspectives from African Literature," Conference on Africa as

August 1985 "Black American Women Writers and the Reconstruction of American History: Making the Invisible Visible," International Comparative Literature Association, University of Sussex, England

December 1984 "Contemporary Black American Women Writers and the Meticulous Creation of Self," Modern Language Association, Washington, D.C.

October 1984 "A Quartet of Voices: Mongane Wally Serote's To Every Birth Its Blood," African Studies Association, Los Angeles

August 1984 "Harri

Professional Memberships

Modern Language Association; African Literature Association; Society for Values in Higher Education; Association for Commonwealth Literature and Language Studies; Contemplative Mind in Society Project.

Community Service

March 2010 "The Dignity of the Human Person," St. Michael's Chu

August 1991 Rome, Vienna, Budapest

Summer 1985 England

February-May 1982 Southern Africa

June 1980 Mexico (Intensive Social Justice Workshop Experience)

January 1980 Fiji (ACLALS Conference)

Summer 1978 Nigeria, Ghana, Senegal (Conference on the African Novel, University of Ibadan)

November-December 1976 United Kingdom