

VITA

LAURA N. BLACK

**Professor of English**  
**Modern Languages Division Chair**

Southern Wesleyan University  
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**EDUCATION**

1976-1980	University of South Carolina at Columbia	Doctor of Philosophy Major Field: Secondary Education Cognate: English
1971-1972	University of South Carolina at Columbia	Master of Education Major Field: Secondary Education Cognate: English
1967-1971	Newberry College	Bachelor of Arts, <i>cum laude</i> Major: English Minor: Secondary Education

**TEACHING EXPERIENCE: HIGHER EDUCATION**

<i>1980-present</i>	<i>Southern Wesleyan University</i>	
	English and Education Departments	
	Chair, Division of Modern Languages	1994 –present
	Acting Chair, Division of Humanities	Spring 1992
	Professor of English and Education	1991- present
	Adjunct Professor of English and Education	1988 - 1991
	Tenured Professor of English and Education	1987 – 1988
	Associate Professor of English and Education	1982 - 1987
	Acting Coordinator, Studies in English	Spring 1985
	Assistant Professor of English and Education	1980 - 1982

Courses Taught:

Methods of Teaching High School/Middle School English;  
Adolescent Literature; Freshman English I, II; American  
Literature; College Survival; Public Speaking; Journalism I, II;  
World Literature; Modern Grammar; American Novel;  
Business Communications; Advanced Composition;  
Writing for Adults; Writing for College and Career

- 1980 - present                      *Limestone College*  
Adjunct Professor of English
- Courses Taught: Freshman Composition, Public Speaking,  
Vocabulary Development, Modern Grammar
- 1979 - 1980                         *Tri-County Technical College*  
Instructor of English
- Courses Taught: Freshman English I and II; Business English
- 1977 - 1979                         *University of South Carolina at Columbia*  
Instructor, Communication Skills Development Center
- Courses Taught: College Reading and Study Skills,  
Freshman Survival, Speed Reading
- 1976 - 1977                         *University of South Carolina at Columbia*  
Teaching Assistant, Teaching Resource Lab
- Responsibilities: Advised and assisted undergraduate and  
graduate education majors in planning effective lessons and  
utilizing media
- 1975 - 1976                         *Trident Technical College in Charleston, SC*  
Media Specialist  
Instructor in Freshman English

**TEACHING EXPERIENCE: SECONDARY EDUCATION**

- 1987 - 1991                         *Liberty High School, Liberty, SC*  
Teacher: 10th grade English (college preparatory),  
Latin I, Latin II, and Journalism
- 1978 - 1979                         *Lexington High School, Lexington, SC*  
Teacher: 10th grade English (average)  
11th grade English (remedial)
- 1974 - 1976                         *Summerville High School, Summerville, SC*  
Teacher: 10th grade English (honors)  
11th grade English (college preparatory)  
Journalism I, II
- 1972 - 1974                         *Dent Junior High School, Columbia, SC*  
Teacher: 9th grade English (average)  
9th grade English (college preparatory)  
9th grade English (heterogeneous)  
Creative Writing
- Spring 1971                         *Mid-Carolina High School, Prosperity, SC*  
Student Teacher: 9th grade English (average)  
12th grade English (remedial)  
12th grade English (college prep)

## **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS:**

National Council of Teachers of English  
South Carolina Council of Teachers of English  
Conference on Christianity and Literature  
Pickens Council of Teachers of English: Public Relations Chair  
National Education Association  
South Carolina Education Association  
Pickens County Education Association: Liberty High Representative  
Conference on Christianity and Literature  
Philological Association of the Carolinas  
South Atlantic Modern Language Association  
American Classical League

## **PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES:**

Volunteer Substitute Teacher, Liberty High School and Daniel High School 1991-present  
Standardized Test Proctor (valid teaching certificate required), Liberty High School, 1991-present  
State Department of Education NCATE Standards Training (NCTE) October 2002  
State Department of Education Teacher Education Evaluation Team for Converse College, November 2001  
State Department of Education Teacher Education Evaluation Team for Limestone College, November 2001  
Judge, Oconee County Schools Oratory Contest, October 2001  
Standards and Assessment Workshop for Teacher Education, Furman University, Summer 2001  
Institute for Service Learning, Clemson University, Summer 2000  
Panel Member, Validation/ Standard Setting for PRAXIS (ETS), November 1997  
Consultant, ADEPT Teacher Evaluation Instrument, SC Dept. of Education, 1993-94.  
State Department of Education Teacher Education Evaluation Team for Coker College  
State Department of Education Teacher Education Evaluation Team for USC-Spartanburg  
State Department of Education Teacher Education Evaluation Team for Erskine College  
Assessment of Performance in Teaching (APT) Observer, 1982-present  
S.C. Teaching Credential #085740 in English, Latin, and Administration (valid until 2007)  
S.C. Consensus-Based Evaluation Program Participant, 1989-90  
Consultant, Gifted and Talented Curriculum, Pickens County Schools  
Editor, Parent Link Newsletter, Liberty High School, 1989-present  
Consultant, Study Skills for High School English Students, Compass Learning Center, Easley, August 1989  
Program for Effective Teaching (PET) Cycle 1, 1987  
Supervisor of Student Teachers in English, Central Wesleyan College, 1980-present  
School Improvement Council, Liberty High School, 1988-90  
Campus Senator, Philological Association of the Carolinas, 1985-88  
Teacher, Summer Program for Gifted Students, Central Wesleyan College, 1983-85  
Consultant, Education Entrance Examination (EEE) Writing Advisory Committee for S.C. Dept. of Ed., 1982-83  
Committee Member, Honors Project: Diane Holder, "D. H. Lawrence's Religion of the Blood," 1982  
Judge for the School District of Pickens County, Lieutenant Governor's Award for Excellence in Composition, 1982  
Membership Committee, S.C. Council of Teachers of English, 1978-79  
Consultant, Design and Implementation of Newspaper in the Classroom Course at College of Charleston, 1976  
Building Coordinator, Instructional TV and Radio, Summerville High School, 1974- 76  
Publications Advisory Board (Chair), Summerville High School, 1974-76  
Consultant, Curriculum Design for GED Program at Fort Jackson, SC, 1971-72

## **PUBLICATIONS:**

Ruff, George Dan and Laura Neath Black. "Americus George David Wiles as a Literary and Higher Education Leader in South Carolina." The South Carolina Review 34.1 (Fall 2001): 62-74.

Hillocks, George, Jr. Research in Written Composition: New Directions for Teaching. Urbana, IL: National Conference on Research in English/ERIC, 1986. Doctoral research cited on pp. 126, 154-55, 197, 209, and 344.

"John Trumbull: A Bibliography." First Printings of American Authors. Detroit: Gale Research, 1979.

"Notetaking." Putting It All Together: Lesson Plans for Study Skills Seminars. Columbia: University of South Carolina, 1978.

"Spelling." Putting It All Together: Lesson Plans for Study Skills Seminars. Columbia: University of South Carolina, 1978.

"The Effects of Two Prewriting Activities Upon the Overall Quality of Ninth Graders' Descriptive Paragraphs." Dissertation Abstracts 41:3-A (Sept. 1980): 972.

## **PRESENTATIONS:**

"Whose Idea Is It Anyway?" (co-author Gloria J. Bell) presented at faculty workshop, October 2004 (Central, S.C.)

"Whose Idea Is It Anyway?" (co-author Gloria J. Bell) presented at faculty workshop, May 2004 (Columbia, S.C.)

Colloquium on John Grisham's *The Testament* presented to S.W.U. Honors Seminar, February 2003

"How God Called Me" presented as Lenten homily, University Lutheran Church, March 2002

"John Trumbull's Perceptive Vision" presented to S.W.U. Honors Seminar, February 2002

"The Importance of Communication Skills" presented to the Business Academic Advisory Board for Southern Wesleyan University, October 1997.

"John Trumbull: A Man Ahead of His Time" a multi-media presentation as part of the Arts and Lecture Series, Southern Wesleyan University, February 1997

"What Do I Do With This Paper?" Writing Across the Curriculum Workshops, October 1994 and January 1995, Southern Wesleyan University Campuses in South Carolina

"Freeing the Muse" presented to Pickens County Inservice Education, August 1990

"What High School Educators Can Teach College Professors" presented to Pickens Council of Teachers of English, April 1988

"Competency Testing in English" Central Wesleyan College, November, 1987

"Using Computer Grade Books" Central Wesleyan College, January, 1987

"A Cheer for Latin" Edwards Junior High Latin Banquet, 1982, 1984, 1986

"Dance in Religion" presented to Lutheran Student Movement, February 1986

"Dance in Religion" presented to Adult Sunday School Class, Clemson United Methodist Church, January 1985

"Writing Skills for Ministers" presented to Ministers' Conference at CWC, February 1985

"Dance in Religion" presented at Central Wesleyan College, November 1984

"Using the Newspaper With Gifted Students" presented to Newspaper in Education Seminar at the Greenville News, July 1984

"Using the Newspaper with Gifted Students" presented to Newspaper in Education at Furman University, June 1984

"Overcoming Writer's Block" presented to SCCTE, Spartanburg, February 1983

"Resume Writing" presented at 2nd Annual Conference on Women and Careers, Tri-County Technical College, March 1983

"Archibald Rutledge: S.C. Poet Laureate" presented at Central Wesleyan College, October 17, 1983

"Research in Written Composition" presented to National Council of Teachers of English October 1983

"Overcoming Writer's Block" presented to National Council of Teachers of English, October 1983

"Overcoming Writer's Block" presented to South Carolina Personnel and Guidance Association, February 1982

"Aging in America" presented at Central Wesleyan College, March 1981

"The Wit and Wisdom of Benjamin Franklin" presented at Central Wesleyan College, November 1980

## **HONORS:**

Who's Who Among American Teachers, 2003-2004

Governor's Distinguished Professor Award, October 2000

Faculty Member of the Year, Southern Wesleyan University, 2000  
 Strathmore's Who's Who, Lifetime Recognition  
 Who's Who in the World, 1997  
 Who's Who in the South and Southeast, 1997  
 NCTE Certificate of Achievement for Outstanding Service to the Profession, 1996  
 Finalist, Outstanding Teacher Award, Southern Wesleyan University, 1995  
 Who's Who in American Teachers, 1992  
 Professional Growth Award, South Carolina Conference on Foreign Language Teaching, 1991  
 Clemson Christian Women's Club Outstanding Teacher Award, 1991  
 Finalist, Pickens County Teacher of the Year, 1990-91  
 Teacher of the Year, Liberty High School, 1990-91  
 National Council of Teachers of English Recognition Award for Service to the Profession, 1990, 1995  
 Faculty Member of the Year, Central Wesleyan College, 1982 and 1986  
 Outstanding Young Alumnus Award, Newberry College, 1984  
 Outstanding Young Women in America, 1980, 1981, 1982, 1986, 1987  
 American Legion Award, Newberry College, 1971  
 Bachman Honor Society, Newberry College, 1971  
 Newberry Business and Professional Women's Club Award, Newberry College, 1971

### COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT:

Church Council, University Lutheran Church, 2002 (three-year term)  
 Vice President, Board of Directors, Village Green Homeowners Association, 1992-2001  
 March of Dimes, 1997 and 1998  
 American Cancer Fund Drive, 1992, 1993  
 Morrison Elementary School Volunteer, 1991-92  
 Environmental Awareness Committee, Liberty High School, 1990-1991  
 Alumni Board, Newberry College, 1982-84  
 Sunday School Teacher, University Lutheran Church, 1984-present  
 Lay Lector, Homilist, and Assisting Minister, University Lutheran Church, 1980- present  
 Refugee Resettlement Committee Medical and Dental Coordinator, University Lutheran Church, 1984  
 Den Mother, Cub Scout Den 9 of Pack 161, 1987-88  
 Editor, Alpha Bits Newsletter, Clemson Montessori School  
 Field Trip Transportation Team, Clemson Montessori School  
 Alumnae Advisor, Kappa Delta Sorority, Clemson University, 1979-81  
 Alumnae Advisor, Kappa Delta Sorority, Newberry College, 1972, 1977-78

### EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES SPONSORED

<i>Southern Wesleyan University</i>	<i>1980-present</i>	<i>Lexington High School</i>	<i>1978-79</i>
Yearbook, 1980-87		Modern Dance Club	
Newspaper, 1991-92; 1984-87			
Literary Magazine, 1983, 1992, 1994, 1998, 2000		<i>Summerville High School</i>	<i>1974-76</i>
Cheerleaders, 1983-85			
Class of 1986, Class of 1998, Class of 2003		Newspaper and Literary Magazine	
Alpha Chi Honor Society, 1982-87; 1991-present		Ballet and Tap Classes	
		Cheerleader Advisory Committee	
<i>Liberty High School</i>	<i>1987-1991</i>	<i>Dent Junior High School</i>	<i>1972-73</i>
Newspaper and Literary Magazine			
Latin Club		Pep Club	
Sophomore Class			

