

Trudier Harris

I hope that aspiring young African American scholars and writers will become curious to know more about the Wintergreen Women Writers Collective. Indeed, perhaps they will not only be inspired to read about us and our history, but they might be inspired to form similar groups that could sustain them for more than three decades. These are the folks whose attention we want to grab. I also want us to grab the attention of literary historians and anyone else who has an interest in documenting the work of literary/creative groups during the early stages of integration in higher education. Our best hope would be to influence the younger scholars and writers even as we influence whatever groups seek to document historical and literary movements.

I am a scholar, writer, lecturer/keynoter, memoirist, essayist, editor, advisor, proofreader, recommender, and general person of good humor who can bring all these skills to bear on our Board. I have written and published on more than a hundred and twenty (120) African American writers. I taught in integrated higher education for more than fifty years, where I also advised undergraduate and graduate students, guided recently minted PhDs into jobs throughout the country, and continued to advise new assistant professors as they embarked upon jobs in their respective institutions. I have countless years of conference experience and many years of service on university, state, and national boards of one kind or another (especially editorial boards of journals). I have traveled to forty-six (46) states and twenty-one (21) countries, so I have extensive experience in meeting and interacting with scholars throughout the world. . . .I can also guide anyone who is interested through the intricacies of watching football games or tennis matches (and I can hit the tennis court when necessary).