

# Cynthia Griggs Fleming, Ph.D.

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## Education

**Doctor of Philosophy Degree in History**, Concentration: **African American & Oral History**, Duke University, Durham, NC May 1977

**Dissertation Topic:** *The Development of Black Education in Tennessee, 1865-1920*

**Masters of Arts Degree in History**, Duke University, Durham NC May 1975

**Bachelor of Arts Degree in History**, Knoxville College, May 1971-**Summa Cum Laude**

## Academic Experience

**The University of Tennessee-History Department**

*Full Professor*

Knoxville, TN

August 2005-Present

**The University of Tennessee-History Department**

*Associate Professor with Tenure*

Knoxville, TN

August 1987-July 2005

**The University of Tennessee-History Department**

*Director of Afro-American Studies*

Knoxville, TN

July 1987-July 1997

**The University of Tennessee-History Department**

*Assistant Professor*

Knoxville, TN

August 1982-August 1987

**Morehouse College-History Department**

*Assistant/Associate Professor of History*

Atlanta, GA

August 1978-May 1982

**Texas Southern University**

*Instructor of History*

Houston, TX

August 1977-May 1978

## Publications

### Books:

Forthcoming: *A Crisis of Victory: Black Leadership in the New Millennium*. Under Contract at the University Press of Kentucky.

*In The Shadow of Selma: The Continuing Struggle for Civil Rights in the Rural South*, Rowman and Littlefield Publishers, Inc. April 2004.

With Alan Brinkley, et al., *The Chicago Handbook for Teachers*, University of Chicago Press, 1999. A Chinese language edition of this book will be published in 2005.

*Soon We Will Not Cry: The Liberation of Ruby Doris Smith Robinson*, Rowman and Littlefield Publishers, Inc., 1998.

### Scholarly Articles:

“Black Women and Black Power: The Case of Ruby Doris Smith Robinson and SNCC,” included in *African-American Women in the Civil Rights-Black Power Movement* ed. by Bettye Collier-Thomas and V. P. Franklin, New York University Press, 2000.

“Education, Elementary and Secondary,” “Knoxville College,” and “We Shall Overcome: Tennessee and the Civil Rights Movement,” included in *Tennessee History: The Land, the People, and the Culture*, ed. By Carroll Van West, University of Tennessee Press, 1998.

“We Shall Overcome: Tennessee and the Civil Rights Movement.” *Tennessee Historical Quarterly*, Fall, 1995.

“Black Women Activists and the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee,” included in *We Specialize in the Wholly Impossible-A Reader in Black Women’s History*, ed. by Darlene Clark Hine, Wilma King and Linda Reed, Carlton Publishing, 1995.

“More than a Lady: Black Women, Activism and the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee” included in *Southern Women: Hidden Histories* ed. by Virginia Bernhardt and Elizabeth Fox Genovese, University of Missouri Press, 1994.

“Black Women Activists and the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee.” *Irish Journal of American Studies*, vol. 3, 1994.

“Black Women Activists and the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee: The Case of Ruby Doris Smith Robinson.” *Journal of Women’s History*, Vol. 4, No. 3, Winter 1993, pp. 64-82.

“The Negative Americans” included in *Acculturation and Ethnicity in the United States*, ed. by John Buenker and Larry Ratner, Greenwood Press, 1991.

“White Lunch Counters and Black Consciousness: The Story of the Knoxville Sit-Ins: *Tennessee Historical Quarterly*, Spring 1990, pp. 4-52.

“Knoxville College: The First Fifty Years, 1875-1925,” *East Tennessee Historical Society Publications*, Nos., 58-59, 1986, pp. 89-111.

“An Evolution of Attitudes: The Effect of Higher Education on Black Tennesseans.” *Phylon*, Vol. XLIV, No. 3, Sept. 1984, pp. 209-216.

"A Survey of Tennessee's Black Colleges and Universities." Tennessee Historical Quarterly, Summer 1980, pp. 195-207.

"The Plight of Black Educators in Postwar Tennessee, 1865-1920." The Journal of Negro History, Fall 1979, pp. 355-364.

\*Reviews of Soon We Will Not Cry: Publisher's Weekly, March 23, 1998; Ebony, April, 1998; Emerge, August, 1998; The Washington Post, August 23, 1998, H-Net Book Review, H-Women@h-net.msu.edu, February, 1999.

#### **Book Reviews:**

Review of How Long, How Long? by Belinda Robnett in the Journal of American History, September 1999, p. 745-746.

Review of Marching Together: Women of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters in the Journal of Southern History, August, 1999, p. 664-665.

Review of Daughters of Sorrow by Beverly Guy-Sheftall and To Better Our World by Dorothy Salem, the Georgia Historical Quarterly, Fall 1991.

Review of Between Struggle and Hope by Arnold Cooper in the Journal of Southern History, May 1991, pp. 342-343.

Review of Hope and Dignity by Emily Wilson and Susan Mullally in the Georgia Historical Quarterly, Fall 1984, pp. 461-462.

Review of Northern Schools, Southern Blacks, and Reconstruction, Freedmen's Education, 1862-1875 by Ronald Butchart in The Journal of Negro History, Vol. LXVI, No. 2, Summer 1981, pp. 156-157.

Review of Red, Black and Green: Black Nationalism in the United States by Alphonso Pinkey in Africana Journal, Vol. XI, Numbers 1 and 2, 1980, pp. 180-181.

#### **Work In Progress:**

Currently working on a biography of Dr. C. T. Vivian, a major leader in the civil rights movement.

Progress I have completed the introduction and one chapter of the manuscript. I have been offered a contract for this manuscript.

Currently working on a study of black leadership since the death of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. The manuscript, tentatively titled A Crisis of Victory, is under contract to the University Press of Kentucky.

#### **Teaching**

Guest lecturer in a number of classes: 1) lectures on Africa for Dr. Marr and Dr. Farris' World Civilization Course; 2) on Black Knoxvilleians for both Dr. McDonald and Dr. Wheeler; 3) on the retention of Africanisms among American Blacks for Dr. Mona Phillips in a graduate sociology course she taught; 4) on the historical context surrounding the black family in Greer Fox's Afro-American Family course.

Designed and taught a course on Blacks in film that I developed. The first time this course was ever taught, it had an enrollment of 20 students.

Designed and taught a course on the Civil Rights Movement. Student response was quite favorable: 22 students enrolled in the course.

Guest-lectured in Professor Fran Ansley's class (Law School) on the historical roots of oppression.

Recently developed a course that examines issues of black leadership by focusing on Malcolm X and Martin Luther King, Jr.

#### **Information on Conferences**

Planned and coordinated a two-day conference to commemorate the fortieth anniversary of the passage of the Voting Rights Act, January 28-29, 2005.

Planned and coordinated a two-day conference to commemorate the fortieth anniversary of Mississippi Freedom Summer, February 13-14, 2004.

#### **Professional Presentations & Consulting**

Co-editor, along with Professor Steven Lawson of Rutgers University, of a new civil rights series at the University Press of Kentucky.

Participant in a panel discussion on writing historical biography at the Southern Historical Association's annual meeting in Houston, Texas, November 8, 2003

Featured speaker at the Southern Regional Education Board's Annual Compact for Faculty Diversity, Miami, Florida, October 31-November 1, 2003

Appointed as a series editor for the University Press of Kentucky's new civil rights series, 2003-Present

Closing Speaker for The Commemoration of The Nashville Student Movement, Sponsored by the Tennessee State Museum in Nashville, October 4, 2003.

Appointed as Oral History Consultant to the National Civil Rights Museum in Memphis, Tennessee, April 11-12, 2003.

Appointed as Oral History Consultant to the National Voting Rights Museum in Selma, Alabama, March 8-9, 2003.

Featured Speaker for Women's History Month for Knoxville College, Knoxville, Tennessee, March 6, 2003.

Black History Month Lecturer and Workshop Leader; Hope Presbyterian Church, Detroit, Michigan, February 23-25, 2003.

Black History Month Celebration Panelist, Black Cultural Center, University of Tennessee, February 18, 2003.

Featured Lecturer for the series Travelin' On – a commemoration of the fortieth anniversary of Birmingham's Civil Rights Campaign. The program was sponsored by the Birmingham Public Library and Samford University, February 15, 2003.

Featured speaker for the Children's Defense Fund on January 25, 2003; November 1, 2002; July 16, 2002; June 10, 2002; June 5, 2002; May 16, 2002; March 23, 2002; February 23, 2002; February 15, 2002.

Featured Lecturer at Howard University in Washington, D.C., November 18-19, 2002.

Featured Speaker and Workshop Leader for the Southern Regional Education Board's Compact for Faculty Diversity, Arlington, Virginia, October 25-26, 2002.

Opening Speaker for U.T. Martin's annual Civil Rights Conference, Martin, Tennessee, February 28, 2002.

Also I am a member of U.T. Martin's planning committee for these annual civil rights conference. 2001 -

Featured Speaker and Workshop Leader for the Southern Regional Education Board's Compact for Faculty Diversity, Atlanta, Georgia, October 26-27, 2001.

Featured Lecturer for Black History Month at the University of Mississippi, Oxford, Mississippi, February 20, 2001.

Featured Lecturer for Black History Month at Tougaloo College, February 19, 2001.

Featured Lecturer for Women's History Month at Idaho State University, Pocatello, Idaho, March 12, 2001.

Lectured on Black Women in the Civil Rights Movement at the San Francisco Bay Area Book Council Book Fair. I was one of 200 authors invited to the festival. There were roughly 14,000 spectators. November 7-8, 1998.

On March 30, 2000 I lectured on black women in the civil rights movement to the student body at Knoxville College

On March 2, 2000 I participated in a panel discussion on integrating women's history into the U.S. History curriculum sponsored by the Graduate Student History Association.

On December 2, 1999, I lectured on stereotypes to a group sponsored by the SGA's Committee on Diversity.

On November 11, 1999, I co-sponsored/planned a program to honor Dr. Clinton Marsh, one of the six black plaintiffs who attempted to desegregate the University of Tennessee's graduate school in the fall of 1939.

I have been invited to sign copies of my book at a variety of places including Mt. Calvary Baptist Church, Knoxville, TN., Politics and Prose Bookstore, Washington, D.C., B. Dalton Bookstore, Detroit, MI, San Francisco Book Fair, San Francisco, California, Davis-Kidd Booksellers, Knoxville, TN, Borders Bookstore, Knoxville, TN. These were all in 1998 and 1999.

On January 14, 1990, I appeared on Interfaith Dialogue—a show that was broadcast by WBIR (Channel 10). The purpose of this show was to examine Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s legacy.

On January 11, 1990, I reviewed a book (Parting the Waters) and participated in a panel discussion sponsored by the Knoxville Committee for the Development of the Black Community.

In November, 1989 I taped a short segment for WBIR (Channel 10). This segment constituted part of one of the Heartland Series programs that aired several times in December, 1989.

I serve as the moderator for a black literature group that meets at Borders Book Store six times a year.

Lectured at Princeton University on Soon We Will Not Cry, May 4, 1998.

Lectured at the African American Women in the Civil Rights – Black Power Movement Conference, Temple University, November 20-21, 1997.

Served as The Edward B. Preston Memorial History Speakers fund Lecturer at The Hotchkiss School, Lakewood Connecticut, February 16, 1995.

Lectured at Civil Rights Conference at University of Ulster, Belfast, Northern Ireland, March, 1994.

Served as a commentator on a session at the Southern Historical Association in November, 1993. The session was titled, "Networking in the Movement; The Civil Rights Movement and Its Allies."

Served as a lecturer in the East Tennessee Historical Society's Journey Through Appalachia Program 1992-93.

Presented a paper at the 1991 meeting of the Association for Southern Women Historians-“Ruby Doris Smith and Black Women’s Leadership in SNCC.”

Presented a paper at the 1991 meeting of the Organization of American Historians-“The Liberation of Ruby Doris Smith Robinson: Black Women, Activism, and the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee.”

Delivered a Centripetals lecture in March 1989.

Served as a lecturer in the NEH sponsored “Journey Through Southern History” Program conducted by Mark Wetherington, Director of the East Tennessee Historical Society, during 1987-88.

Commentator for a Session, “Black Higher Education in the New South,” at the 1983 Southern Historical Association Meeting, November 11, 1983, Charleston, SC.

Commentator for a session, “Historical Perspective on the Education of Black Americans,” at the 1983 meeting of the Association for the Study of Afro-American Life and History, October 22, 1983.

Chaired a session at the 1981 meeting of the Association for the Study of Afro-American Life and History on integrating Afro-American history into the high school curriculum.

Presented a paper at the 1979 conference on the South at the Citadel. “Black Student Life on Campus at Tennessee’s Black Colleges and Universities, 1865-1920.”

Presented a paper at the 1978 meeting of the Association for the Study of Afro-American Life and History – “The Plight of Tennessee’s Black Educators, 1865-1920.”

### **Committees**

#### **University**

Commission for Blacks, Faculty Development Committee of the Faculty Senate, African and African-American Studies Committee

#### **College**

Committee to appoint a permanent head, 1984, English Department Headship Search Committee, 1987-88, History Department Headship Search Committee, 1988-1990

#### **Department**

Head’s Advisory Committee, 1983-86, Undergraduate Program Committee, 1984-86, Latin American Search Committee, 1988-8, History Department Headship Search Committee, 1988-89, Afro-American Search Committee (Chair), 1988-89.

#### **Other**

Served as a member of the University of Tennessee Press Editorial Board and evaluated manuscripts for publication.

Served on the CLEP Committee of the College Board (1993-1994). We were charged with the task of revising the CLEP exam in U.S. History.

Since 1994, I have served as a member of the Tennessee Historical Quarterly’s Editorial Board and review manuscripts for publication.

Served as a member of the Advanced Placement Test Development Committee in United States History for the College Board. [1989-1993]. This committee constructs the Advance Placement U.S. History test that almost 200,000 AP U.S. History students take every year.

Appointed to the committee to oversee the East Tennessee Historical Society’s expansion Knoxville, Tennessee, 2002-2003.

Currently planning a commemoration of Freedom Summer for February, 2004. The commemoration will bring together former members of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee, college student leaders, and scholars.

Served on an advisory committee to oversee the expansion of the National Civil Rights Museum in Memphis, TN, 1998-1999.

### **Honors, Awards, & Fellowships**

#### **Fellowships for Graduate Study:**

Rockefeller Foundation, 1973-1976, National Fellowships Fund, 1977

UTK faculty development grant in summer 1983 to develop a course in African History, UTK summer grant to begin research on a scholarly history of Knoxville College, 1986, Fellow at the Duke/UNC Center for Research on Women for the academic year, 1990-91, UTK faculty research grant for a study of the Civil Rights Movement in Wilcox County, Alabama; Award for outstanding service to the University of Tennessee at Martin’s Civil Rights Conference, February 2005.