

Q91 Attachment – HELC Commissioner Biographies

Mary E. Dilworth, Chair

Mary E. Dilworth is best known for her work in teaching, teacher education, and teachers' professional development and has received special recognition for her accomplishments in the areas of teacher and learner diversity and equity issues. She is an education advisor to a number of non-profit education organizations and institutions and editor of the volume *Millennial Teachers of Color* (Harvard Education Press) that is recipient of the American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education 2019 Outstanding Book of the Year.

Mary E. Dilworth's career is keenly focused on matters of teacher quality and preparation and the intersection of race and ethnicity. She recently completed work as co-principal investigator for a National Science Foundation (NSF-DR12) project designed to recruit, prepare, license and employ middle and high school science teachers from under-represented groups. She served as a visiting professor and led the University of the District of Columbia's graduate center for urban education. An experienced administrator she served as vice president for research and higher education at the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards and senior vice-president of AACTE.

Earlier in her career, Mary E. Dilworth was affiliated with Howard University working as a research fellow with the University's Institute for the Study of Educational Policy (ISEP) and subsequently as the coordinator of education and training for Howard University Hospital. While at ISEP, Dilworth wrote the book *Teachers' Totter: A Report on Teacher Certification Issues* widely recognized as heightening the national discourse on the disparate impact of licensing tests on under-represented groups. In addition, Dilworth worked for a national advisory council on education professional development, and a Washington based research consulting organization, where she managed research and professional development projects with federal agencies and the District of Columbia Schools (DCPS). She taught second and six grades in DCPS while pursuing a master's degree.

Dilworth is frequently invited to present at national policy and research forums e.g., the National Academies of Sciences and Council of Chief State School Officers. She has written, edited and contributed to scores of scholarly books, articles, policy and research reports and essays. She is the author of a chapter on the presence and absence of policies to diversify the teaching force for the upcoming *Handbook of Research on Teachers of Color* (Bristol & Gist). Other recent contributions include an Urban Review article, *Understanding the Black Teacher through Metaphor*, the report, *Time for a Change: Diversity in Teaching Revisited*; and a chapter in the *International Guide to Student Achievement*.

Mary E. Dilworth holds and has held a number of elected and appointed positions on boards and commissions including: the American Educational Research Association (AERA); the Educational Testing Service (ETS); the National Education Association (NEA); the American Federation of Teachers (AFT) and the Ford Foundation. She earned BA and MA degrees from

Howard University and a doctorate from Catholic University of America each in the field of education.

John M. Cross, Vice Chair

John M. Cross serves as vice chair of the Higher Education Li-censure Commission. He joined HELC in 2015, when Mayor Muriel Bowser called him from retirement.

Previously, he served as chief executive of three businesses, senior management for a GE subsidiary, TV and radio reporter, public relations, volunteering with public interest organizations, and involvement with higher education. Along the way he was professional staff on a Senate Committee, director of President Carter's 1980 Conference on Small Business. He has worked in Washington, San Francisco, New York City, Providence and Stamford, Connecticut.

He was also involved in issue-related government relations and minority housing programs as part of his career: Service-member's Legal Defense Network; DC Habitat for Humanity, as vice president of its board; GE's representative during the 1992 Jimmy Carter Work Project, responsible for successfully building a home in Ward 8 in one week and GE's minority housing programs, and working closely with the minority National Association of Real Estate Brokers to develop affordable mortgage programs, beginning in Chicago working with local churches.

He holds AB and AM degrees from Brown University and MS from Columbia University.

He was naturalized a US citizen in 1974.

JoAnne Deborah Joyner, PhD, RN, PHMCNS-BC

Dr. JoAnne D. Joyner retired from the position of adjunct professor at Trinity Washington University in the School of Nursing and Health Professions in 2017. Prior to this position, Dr. Joyner served as Director and Associate Professor in Schools of Nursing at the University of the District of Columbia (UDC) and Bowie State University. She also served as a Buckley Visiting Scholar at Adelphi University, School of Nursing in Garden City, New York. Before her retirement from the Washington, DC, Veterans Affairs Medical Center, Dr. Joyner functioned as the Director of Nursing for Behavioral Health Services. She retired her certification as an Advanced Practice Nurse in Adult Psychiatric and Mental Health Nursing by the American Nurses Credentialing Center in 2019.

Dr. Joyner's career was greatly enhanced by her professional experiences at the William A. White Building at St. Elizabeths Hospital - a major branch for mental health research by the National Institutes of Mental Health at that time. In addition, she became an experienced nurse ethicist with certifications in Intensive and Advanced Bioethics from Georgetown University and

the Veterans Health Administration. She was chair of the Washington, DC VAMC Ethics Advisory Committee for five years and functioned as a nurse ethicist at the VA's National Center for Ethics in Health Care.

Dr. Joyner is a graduate of the Washington Hospital Center School of Nursing and received her Bachelor's from what is now Washington Adventist University in Takoma Park, Maryland. In addition, she received a Master of Science in Nursing, a Doctor of Nursing Science and a Doctor of Philosophy degree from The Catholic University of America.

Dr. Joyner served as the chairperson of the Board of Nursing for the District of Columbia from 2005 - 2008. Her most recent research activity involved functioning as co-investigator and co-author of a study funded by the National Council of State Boards of Nursing which described the utilization of unlicensed assistive personnel in acute care setting. She currently serves on the Committee for Impaired Nurses for the Board of Nursing of the District of Columbia and was appointed to the Higher Education Licensure Commission of the District of Columbia in August 2014. She continues to provide education and consultation in the areas of behavioral health and health care ethics.

Dr. Joyner lives in Washington, DC with her husband of 34 years; she enjoys live theater, travel, blues and jazz, and preparing gourmet meals for family and friends.

Anita Bellamy Shelton

Anita Bellamy Shelton has for more than fifty years provided innovative services to families and children of the District of Columbia. She is best known as a leading advocate for those who are in poverty or victims of discrimination. Anita has been a resident of Ward 1 for more than 60 years. She is a graduate of Howard University School of Social Work with a Masters of Social Work and former Adjunct Professor. Anita is known as the social worker's "social worker," a neighborhood organizer and a creative problem solver. For those who have been her mentees, students and her staff, she was considered to be a taskmaster, who set high standards for their performance, demanding the best, and insisting on development of their fullest potential.

Anita's work is guided by the philosophy of Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune, "I have a legacy to leave my people, it's my philosophy to live and serve." Her collective efforts and advocacy have resulted in:

- Forced change in an urban renewal plan that prevented a major freeway from disrupting the community, and demolishing Bible Way Church, and required building of housing for low income families in Northwest 1 Urban Area.
- Established through the Urban League the first anti-poverty center in Northwest 1 funded by the Lyndon B. Johnson War on Poverty program and the United Planning Organization.
- Organized the first organization for and by ex-offenders, "Efforts for Ex-Convicts," which still exists as a premier organization providing transitional services.

- Organized, through the Washington Urban League, African-American government workers to eliminate discrimination in hiring and promotion of African-Americans, which contributed to the early success of The United Black Fund, Inc. of Washington, D.C.
- Pioneered in efforts to organize domestic worker to provide for inclusion in the Federal Social Security program. Anita served as the director of the National Committee on Household Employment, which was funded by the Ford Foundation and included in its supporters Gloria Steinem and Barbara Walters.
- Served as the first African-American director of Christ Child Settlement House in an era when women were not promoted to managerial positions.
- Selected by Mayor Marion Barry as Director of the Office of Human Rights, this instituted legal action against the D. C. Fire Department for discrimination of firefighters.
- Former Director of Hillcrest Children’s Center prevented the closing of Hillcrest Children's Center by the Board of Trustees and was instrumental in filing a lawsuit which was supported by Arnold & Porter LLC that resulted in an \$18 million settlement to the agency.
- A passionate antique dealer and collector for more than 30 years, specializing in hand made jewelry and art.

Estell Mathis-Lloyd

Ms. Mathis-Lloyd is currently the president and CEO of a Social Engagement, Management and Political Consulting Team. Her professional background and work experience includes positions with both DC Council members, the University of the District of Columbia, and District of Columbia Public Schools.

She is also involved in volunteering with and supporting the following organizations:

- St Paul AME Church, Officer and Events Coordinator
- Executive Board member, Ward 4 Democrats
- Chair, Ward 4 Constituent Services Fund
- Former National Committee Woman, DNC
- Immediate past President, DC Federation of Democratic Women
- Chairwoman, National Federation of Democratic Women “Women in Blue” Lobby Days
- President, Metropolitan Women Democratic Club
- At-Large Member, DC Democratic State Committee
- Board Member:
 - Education two plus two
 - William Lockridge Education Foundation
 - Ladies of Tomorrow
 - Hall of Fame

Ms. Mathis-Lloyd received her Bachelor's degree in French/English from North Carolina Central University in Durham, North Carolina, and her M.ED. in Counseling from Howard University.