

Question 95 Attachment – HELC Commissioner Bios

Mary E. Dilworth, Chair

Mary E. Dilworth's career is centered on teacher quality and preparation, with a keen focus on racial/ethnic and linguistic diversity and equity issues. She is an advisor to a number of non-profit education organizations and institutions and has led a host of education policy, research and program initiatives as vice-president of the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards, senior vice-president of the American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education and as a visiting professor and director of the Center for Urban Education at the University of the District of Columbia.

She has written, edited and contributed to scores of scholarly books, articles, policy and research reports and essays. Her recent contributions include: the 2018 edited book, *Millennial Teachers of Color* (Harvard Education Press), a 2018 *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*.

Her professional memberships include American Educational Research Association, Phi Delta Kappa, and Association for Education Finance and Policy. She is a member of the Theory into Practice editorial board.

Mary E. Dilworth currently chairs the District of Columbia Higher Education Licensure Commission 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 has over 50 years' experience in government and government affairs, business management, corporate relations, and news media, living more than 40 years in Washington. His experience includes service as chief executive of three businesses, senior management for an operating subsidiary of General Electric, four years as a TV reporter, additional years in print and audio journalism and public relations, volunteering with public interest organizations, and involvement with education.

In 2015, District of Columbia Mayor Muriel Bowser called him from retirement to the Higher Education Licensure Commission, where he serves as vice chair of the five-member group that regulates and licenses over 125 post-secondary educational institutions.

He began his career at Business Week magazine, reporting from its Washington and San Francisco bureaus. He then moved into government as professional staff with the US Senate's Small Business Committee for the late Senator Thomas J. McIntyre (D-New Hampshire) and as a director of research for President Jimmy Carter's White House Conference on Small Business. In the early 1980s, he was an on-camera reporter for business news at WPXI-TV Pittsburgh. He also was a news anchor there for WTKN-AM news and free-lanced for KTVU-TV Salt Lake City.

Returning to Washington in the mid-1980s, he moved into public relations and became corporate communications vice president for GE Capital Mortgage Corporation, based in Alexandria, Virginia, in charge of internal, external and marketing communications. He was also involved in issue-related government relations and its minority housing programs.

In the 1990s joined an Australian information company as president of its American subsidiary where he produced Business Essentials audio magazines on economics, management and government issues for growing businesses. He also ran his own communications firm with a variety of clients.

He was active for over 15 years as a volunteer with the Servicemember's Legal Defense Network ending the military's anti-gay "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy. At DC Habitat for Humanity, he was vice president of its board of directors and was GE's representative during the 1992 Jimmy Carter Work Project.

From 2013 to 2015 he was Ward 6 (Capitol Hill neighborhood) volunteer co-chair for Mayor Bowser's campaign. He also volunteered on two city council races in 2016.

His education began in his native England. After emigrating to Rhode Island, he graduated from Barrington High School. He earned a bachelor's degree in history and a master's degree in Chinese studies from Brown University. Following that, at Columbia University, he studied journalism, receiving a master's of science. He has lectured and served as an advisor at Carnegie Mellon University and the University of Pittsburgh. He also lectured on government relations and journalism at Columbia and the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. He taught history and civics with the Providence public schools in the late 1960s.

Born in Manchester, he came to the United States when his father was transferred from England by the British multi-national Imperial Chemical Industries. He was naturalized a US citizen in 1974.

He is married to Benjamin D. Diamond of Pittsburgh, a retired attorney. They live on Capitol Hill. They have one daughter and two grandsons.

JoAnne Deborah Joyner, PhD, RN, PHMCNS-BC
Consultant
Behavioral Health and Health Care Ethics Consultant

Dr. JoAnne D. Joyner recently retired from a position of adjunct professor at Trinity Washington University in the School of Nursing and Health Professions. At this university she was primarily responsible for course work in Psychiatric and Mental Health Nursing and Nursing Research and Evidence-based Practice. 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 where she taught Qualitative Research Methodologies to doctoral students. Before her retirement from the Washington, DC, Veterans Affairs Medical Center, Dr. Joyner functioned as the Director of Nursing for Behavioral Health Services where she served as an administrator and practitioner. She is certified as an Advanced Practice Nurse in Adult Psychiatric and Mental Health Nursing by the American Nurses Credentialing Center.

Dr. Joyner's career was greatly enhanced by her professional experiences as a mental health clinician and nurse researcher at the William A. White Building at St. Elizabeth's 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 District of Columbia Board of Nursing 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 33 years. She is a life-long learner and has many interests – including live theater, learning Tai Chi, traveling, listening to the blues and jazz and preparing gourmet meals for family and friends.

ANITA BELLAMY SHELTON “*A LIVING LEGEND*”

Anita Bellamy Shelton has for 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* is known as the social worker's "social worker," a neighborhood organizer and a creative problem solver. For those who have been her 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 was guided by the philosophy that all that is needed for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing. Thus, she has never wavered in her efforts to change systems and engage neighborhood groups and organizations in taking on the most difficult problems. 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., 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*, which instituted legal action against the D. C. Fire Department for discrimination of firefighters.
- *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.