

Biographical Description for The HistoryMakers® Video Oral History with Joan Langdon

PERSON

Langdon, Joan , 1951-

Alternative Names: Langdon, Joan , 1951-

Life Dates: August 1, 1951-

Place of Birth: Marion, South Carolina

Residence: Mitchellville, MD

Occupations: Math Professor; Education Administrator

Biographical Note

Mathematician and education administrator Joan Sterling Langdon was born on August 1, 1951 in Marion, South Carolina. After graduating from Hampton University with her B.A. degree in 1973, she enrolled in the College of William & Mary where she received her M.A. degree in 1977. Langdon went on to graduate from Old Dominion University with her M.S. degree in 1985, and American University with her Ph.D. degree in 1989.

Langdon began her career in higher education as an instructor at Rappahannock Community College in 1977. From 1979 to 1985, she was appointed instructor/lecturer at Hampton University where she also served as the first director of the Mathematics/Science Laboratory. In 1989, Langdon joined the Bowie State University community as an associate professor in 1989. During her tenure at Bowie State University, she has served in several administrative positions, including as Director of the Summer Institute in Engineering and Computer Applications Program; Coordinator of the Computer Science program in the Department of Natural Sciences, Mathematics, and Computer Science; and, as the Faculty Administrative Intern. In 1994, she initiated the Senior Year Progression and Transition

Program (SYPAT) and served as coordinator of the program. While there, Langdon served as Founding Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. In 2006, she was appointed as Director of the Title III Program and Director of the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs.

Langdon has also served as chair and/or as a member of numerous committees at Bowie State University and in the University System of Maryland. She was appointed as a curriculum, proposal, and paper reviewer for the Maryland State Department of Education, the National Science Foundation, and the Association of Computing Machinery (ACM), respectively. In 1996, she was appointed to the ACM National Program Committee for SIGCSE. In addition, she has made presentations at all levels of higher education, participated in numerous workshops and conferences, published in conference proceedings, and developed software programs. She has also served as the principal investigator or co-principal investigator for several grants and sub-contracts, and has authored technical reports.

In 1999, Langdon received the ROTC Army Achievement Medal. Bowie State University honored her with the Distinguished Faculty Award in 2003 and the Distinguished Services Award for Outstanding and Dedicated Leadership in 2012. In 2007, she was awarded the NASA Administration Diversity Enhancement Award.

Langdon is married to Larry L. Langdon. They have four daughters: Tomaysa Sterling, Yvonne Langdon, Yvette Langdon, and Heather Langdon.

Joan Sterling Langdon was interviewed by The HistoryMakers on June 22, 2013.

Related Entries

Smalls, Julia Ann [CHILD OF]

Mother

Smalls, Betty Ann [GRANDCHILD OF]

Maternal Grandmother

Smalls, Richard [GRANDCHILD OF]

Maternal Grandfather

Moody Grant, Albert [CHILD OF]

Father

Moody, Carrie [GRANDCHILD OF]

Paternal Grandmother

Grant, Shopper [GRANDCHILD OF]

Paternal Grandfather

Moody Grant, Ophelia [GRANDCHILDOF]
Aunt (P)

Inman, Betty [SIBLINGOF]
Sister

Francis, Albertine [SIBLINGOF]
Sister

Moody, Arthur [SIBLINGOF]
Brother

Moody, Richard [SIBLINGOF]
Brother

Burrell, Bessie [SIBLINGOF]
Sister

Bethea, Sandra [SIBLINGOF]
Sister

Sterling, Tomaysa [PARENTOF]
Daughter

Langdon, Yvonne [PARENTOF]
Daughter

Langdon, Yvette [PARENTOF]
Daughter

Langdon, Heather [PARENTOF]
Daughter

Langdon, Larry L. [SPOUSEOF]
Husband

American University [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to 1989]

Ph.D.

Old Dominion University [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to 1985]

M.S.

College of William and Mary [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to 1977]

M.A.

Hampton University [STUDENTOF]
[from ? to 1973]

B.A.

Bryna Mawr College [STUDENTOF]

York County Public Schools [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1967 to 1977]

Public School Teacher

Rappahannock Community College [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1977 to 1979]

Instructor

Hampton Institute [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1979 to 1985]

Instructor/Lecturer/Director

The American University [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1985 to 1989]

Adjunct Faculty and Ph.D. Student

The U.S. Census Bureau [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1986 to 1986]

Contract Instructor

Bowie State University [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1993 to ?]

Coordinator, Graduate COSC Program

Bowie State University [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1996 to 1997]

Interim Dean, School of Arts and Sciences

Bowie State University [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 1997 to 2001]

Founding Dean, School of Arts and Sciences

Bowie State University [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 2006 to ?]

Director, Title III

Bowie State University [EMPLOYEEOF]
[from 2006 to 2012]

Interim Director, Research and Sponsored Programs

Bowie State University [EMPLOYEEOF]

[from 2007 to ?]

Associate Professor of Computer Science

Mathematics Association of America (MAA) [MEMBEROF]

Member

Association for Computing Machinery (ACM) [MEMBEROF]

Member

American Association of Retired Persons (AARP) [MEMBEROF]

Member

Title III Administrators [MEMBEROF]

Member