

CSULA Emeriti Faculty Biography

Name: Shirley Better
Department: Social Work
Academic rank: Professor
Year appointed: 1969 **Year retired:** 2005
FERP years: 2005-10
City of residence: Los Angeles, CA
Email and web page: ShirleyJBetter@gmail.com
Birth Place: Chicago, IL
Family information: Daniel, Son



Colleges or Universities Attended:

University of Illinois
University of Michigan
University of California, Los Angeles

Degree

BA Sociology
MSW Social Work
DSW Social Work

Teaching Experience: Institution

California State University, Los Angeles

From To

1969 2005

Courses taught:

Women's Issues; Community Organization; Social Policy; Institutional Racism;
Social Work Practice in Minority Communities

Scholarly/Creative Activity:

(Book) Institutional Racism: A Primer on Theory and Strategies for Social Change. 2nd edition. N.Y.:
Roman and Littlefield, November 2007.

Administrative, Business, or Professional Experience (other than teaching): Agency or Company

Chair, Social Work Department
Acting Dean of Continuing Education
Director of CSULA Associated Clinics

Awards, Honors, Professional Recognition:

- Lifetime Achievement Award – National Association of Black Social Workers, April 2003
- Alumni of the Year Award – UCLA School of Social Welfare, 1997.

- The University Library archives will have a Special Collection of Dr. Shirley Better – NABSW as of January 2019.

University Service:

Designed and implemented upper division theme on “Institutional Racism.”
Formed the Caucus of African-American Faculty in 1983 to increase the numbers of African-American students at CSULA and to increase the number of African-American faculty.

Personal commentary:

I am one of the founders of the National Association of Black Social Workers (NABSW), created in 1968.

I am the President of the Association of Black Social Workers, Los Angeles Chapter, 2014-present.

Date completed: October 2018