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:	**Degree**	
University of Illinois	BA	Sociology
University of Michigan	MSW	Social Work
University of California, Los Angeles	DSW	Social Work

Teaching Experience:

Institution	**From**	**To**
California State University, Los Angeles	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