

## Ted Egerton Folarin Roberts

3003 Gazebo Court □ Silver Spring, Maryland 20904 □ Home: (301) 572-7302  
Howard University/Communications: (202) 806-7927 □  
E-mail Address: tedfoia@hotmail.com

### SUMMARY OF PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

Hands-on domestic and international experience in telecommunications, planning, policy development, training, information processing and management. International broadcasting experience at the International Broadcasting Bureau (IBB), U.S. Department of State. Experience in broadcast communications education in the U.S., South America and Africa.

### EXPERIENCE

- 2002** (Summer) Special guest lecturer. Africa Service, British Broadcasting Corporation, London. NIGHTLINE AFRICA
- 2001** (Summer) Organized and ran a series of media workshops (Writing, Reporting, Interviewing, and Voicing) in Abuja, Jos, and Kaduna. (Nigeria) 39 VOA stringers, government and private journalists participated.
- 2000** (Summer) Headed a team of producers and reporters which covered the Zimbabwean parliamentary election in Harare, Southern Africa. I sent daily reports, analyses, commentaries and features on issues leading up to and after the two day election. Helped inaugurate "**Zimbabwe Forum**" a daily half hour radio program (on the Voice of America) specifically designed for Zimbabwe. I did two "live" (one hour) **NIGHTLINE AFRICA** from Zimbabwe. The first time NIGHTLINE was done away from our Washington studios. NIGHTLINE is on the Web at [www@voanews.com](http://www@voanews.com) (English To Africa).
- 1998** (September-October) Howard University/South Africa (HUSAP) Exchange Scholar at Rand Afrikaans University, Johannesburg, Republic of South Africa. I organized workshops in Print and Broadcast Journalism, Mass Communications and Society, Government and Broadcast Programming and Radio Production.
- (Summer): Special assignment for the Voice of America. Visited Sierra Leone and Liberia to report on the civil wars in those countries. I wrote and produced "A Tale Of Two Cities," reflecting on conditions in war-torn Freetown and Monrovia . I conducted Radio Production and Broadcast management workshops for the staff of RADIO MONROVIA and KISS-FM (two VOA affiliates) and SLBS, the government radio station in Freetown.
- 1997** (Summer): **United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Media Consultant** to the government of Sierra Leone. Conducted in-service training and re-training for senior management officials of the government radio and television station. Prepared a Media Policy paper for the government and organized a media/Public Relations workshop for top level media relations professionals in the private sector. I helped put 'finishing touches' to a media training curriculum/program for the Government Civil Service Training Institute.
- 1996** (Summer): Organized three Management, Programming and Radio Production workshops for Radio Monrovia, in Liberia, West Africa. Lectured on the free press in a democracy as part of my "**Nightline Africa**" lecture series.
- 1992** (Summer): **Academic Specialist**, U.S. Information Agency. As a visiting professor at the University of Guyana in Georgetown, Guyana, I organized and ran a four-week broadcast journalism/production seminar at the University and at USIS. Workshops involved three levels: practicing professionals at radio and television stations, media teachers, and university juniors and seniors.

**Ted E. F. Roberts**

Page 2 of 5

**1991** Offered but declined a **Fulbright Fellowship** to teach Mass Media at the Zimbabwe Polytechnic in Harare due to professional commitments in the United States.

**1988 -1990 Freelance Writer**, Voice of America, Washington D.C. Researched and wrote radio scripts for "Africa in Print" broadcast every weekend. (Did book reviews and transformed them into radio scripts. I did one script a week, i.e., roughly 160 scripts.)

**1979-1980 Associate Professor and Acting Chair**, Department of Radio-Television and Film, Howard University, Washington, D.C. I was the department's chief academic planner. I located and allocated resources for three departmental sequences (staff, faculty, facilities, equipment, etc.) This also involved nationwide recruitment of students and faculty. I supervised technical support staff and handled the department's personnel decisions. Assisted by the appropriate faculty, we developed and revised the curriculum to reflect current trends and to insure currency with the new technology and a new world order. I supervised the department's equipment and supply procurement. I taught courses in Radio Production, Broadcast Programming, Media Criticism, and International Media. I was a member and active contributor to a Television Task Force set up by the university president to lay the foundation for WHUT--Howard University's Public television station.

**1980--Present Associate Professor, Radio Sequence Coordinator**, Department of Radio-Television and Film, Howard University, Washington D.C. I plan, develop and teach courses in Broadcast Programming and Management, Radio Production, Broadcast Advertising/Promotions, Script writing and Performance, International Media, and Broadcast History. I coordinated the Radio curriculum, radio faculty activities, student internships and practicums. I served as faculty adviser to the student radio station. Currently, I serve on various department and school-wide committees as needed.

**1986-1987 Fulbright Fellow and Visiting Professor**, Bayero University, Kano, Nigeria. I initiated and taught a development communication course --"Using available media for development." I also taught courses in Broadcast Communications, Radio Script Writing, and Introduction to Mass Communications. Organized a "Career Development Day" focusing on the community, the university and professional media operators. Wrote a mass media policy paper on the university's behalf at the request of the Nigerian federal government. Developed a proposal on Bayero University-Howard University affiliation, which was to involve the exchange of faculty and students.

**1985-1986 Fulbright Fellow and Visiting Professor**, University of Maiduguri, Nigeria. I assisted in developing a Mass Communications curriculum for the university and I laid foundations for establishing a carrier current radio station. I helped organize two symposia: Mass Media and national development and Media Messages/Advertising and taught courses in radio production, feature writing and public relations.

(Summer): **Public Affairs Specialist**, U.S. Army Recruitment Battalion, Fort Monmouth, New Jersey. Administered the Public Information Section's day-to-day activities. I assisted the department head in promotional activities carried out on behalf of the Recruiting Battalion and the U.S. Army. I developed recruitment-related surveys, and worked with radio and television stations and local newspapers to determine adaptability and placement of our promotional materials in relevant markets. I edited and published a battalion newsletter, "**The Ad Libs.**" I received a special Battalion commendation for that effort.

**1977-1980 Associate Professor and Radio Sequence Coordinator,**

Department of Radio Television and Film, Howard University, Washington, DC. I planned, developed and taught courses in Broadcast Programming and Management, Radio Production, Broadcast Advertising/Promotions, Scriptwriting and Performance, International Media, and Introduction to Mass Communication. I served as faculty adviser to WHBC (student carrier current radio station which I proposed in 1973 and helped design). In 1980, I served as Acting Chair of my department (Radio-TV-Film).

**1991-Present: Weekend Editor, Africa Service,** Voice of America, Washington. DC. I research, write, produce and host radio programs for the VOA radio waves. I do original writing, adaptations, reports and interviews. The award-winning **Nightline Africa** program is broadcast twice on Saturdays and Sundays. It is a magazine format that has a refugee search element, **The Missing Link**, through which hundreds of missing family members have been connected. I do at least four SPECIALS a year. **Nightline Africa** is now on the Internet.

**1974-1977- Deputy Chief Information Officer and Trainer.** Government Information Service, Freetown, Sierra Leone. Was responsible for the daily news and features production of the Government Information services. Made daily judgments on and edited what radio, TV and print media carried about the Sierra Leone government. I trained in-service radio, print, and television journalists. Lectured on Public Relations and sales at the Civil Service Training College, Tower Hill, Freetown.

**1972-1974 Associate Professor and Chairperson,** Department of Radio-Television and Film, School of Communications, Howard University, Washington, D.C. I was responsible for the overall administration and management of the department. Prepared the budget, was responsible for student and faculty recruitment and the procurement of equipment and supplies. With the help of the appropriate committee, I helped create a Broadcast management sequence/curriculum. Introduced and developed initial plans for a campus-based carrier current student radio station known today as WHBC. I initiated, produced and hosted a weekend radio program, "**Peoples and Places**" (WHUR).

**1971-1972 Assistant manager, Public Affairs and Training** WHUR (Howard University radio). Washington, DC. I was responsible for program development, content determination and "positioning" strategies. I developed all of the initial Public Affairs programs (including the award winning "**Daily Drum**." I helped train WHUR's first production and management staff.

**1969-1970 Production Assistant,** National Broadcasting Company (WRC-NBC-TV) Washington, DC. Assisted in producing local public affairs programs, scheduled producers, technical directors and facilities. Was a member of the programming "**Think Tank**."

**1964-1974 Editor/Writer/Producer,** Africa Service, Voice of America (VOA), Washington, D.C. I researched, wrote, produced and/or voiced English language radio programs for broadcast to Africa. I created and was successful with "**The Sierra Leone Newsletter, Letter To Liberia, and Students Abroad**." I was heavily involved in "Target Programming" and my **EBONY and SOUL** program was translated into three African languages and widely distributed. I served also an on-camera reporter for USIA television on its "**Washington Report**."

**1962 – 1964 Program Assistant**, Voice of America, Africa Program Center, Monrovia, Liberia.  
I monitored all programs relayed by VOA transmitters in West and North Africa. Wrote and transmitted, to VOA Washington, intelligibility and other programming /interference reports. I traveled throughout Africa in search of program materials/elements for the newly created **African Division** in Washington, DC. Was continuity writer for two VOA programs that were broadcast from Monrovia. Served as promotion specialist for some of the U-S projects in Liberia: USAID, USIS, Peace Corps, Operation Crossroads Africa, etc.

**1962-1964 Assistant Manager**, Liberian Broadcasting Corporation (ELBC), Monrovia, Liberia.  
I supervised the Programming and Production staff while producing and voicing public affairs and listener participation programs for the ELBC airwaves. Was involved in getting and writing local advertiser contracts for this new station.

Continued/4...

Page 4 of 5

**Ted E. F. Roberts**

### AWARDS AND CITATIONS

- 2002** United States Information Agency (VOA-IBB), 2001 Annual Award for "Excellence in Programming" for **Street Children of Africa.**
- 1999** United States Information Agency (VOA), 1998 Annual Award for "Excellence in Programming" for **A Tale Of Two Cities.**
- 1999** International Broadcast Bureau Award for "Excellence in Programming" **A Tale Of Two Cities.**
- 1996** United States Information Agency (IBB) Special Achievement Award" for **The Missing Link.**
- 1992** United States Information Agency (VOA) for "Excellence in Programming Award for **"Voices of Africa"--Rival Liberian Presidents.**
- 1992 Fulbright** Fellowship for Zimbabwe
- 1989 Certificate Superior Achievement, International Radio and Television Society,** New York (advertising and promotion) faculty/industry seminar.
- 1988** Summer **Faculty Internship Grantee**, National Association of Television Programming Executives (programming)
- 1987** Bayero University, **Commendation:** Outstanding contribution to Kano's Mass Communications Program
- 1986-1987 Fulbright Senior Lecturer** (renewed) Bayero University, Kano, Nigeria
- 1986** University of Maiduguri, **Plaque** for "outstanding and dedicated service to Maiduguri's Mass Communications Program.
- 1985** U.S. Army Certificate of Appreciation for "exceptional performance and outstanding support," in Advertising and Promotion, Army Recruiting Battalion,, Fort Monmouth, NJ

### EDUCATION

Ph.D (incomplete) 1979. Organizational Communication. Howard University, Washington, DC  
M.A (1971). (Communications-Radio-Television-Film) University of Maryland, College Park, MD  
B.Sc. (1969) Journalism and Public Relations. University of Maryland, Collage Park, MD  
Diploma (Professional) (1965) Radio and Television Production, Washington Academy of Drama and Fine Arts, Washington, DC

## TEACHING SCOPE

- |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Radio Production          | <input type="checkbox"/> Broadcast Programming           | <input type="checkbox"/> Broadcast and Print Journalism  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Broadcast Performance     | <input type="checkbox"/> Broadcast Advertising/Promotion | <input type="checkbox"/> Script Writing/Radio-Television |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mass Communication Issues |  | <input type="checkbox"/> International Communications    |

## PROFESSIONAL AND CIVIC AFFILIATIONS

International Radio and Television Society (New York)  Association of Third World Journalists (Nigeria)  
 Communication Association of the University of Guyana (adviser)  Americans for the Universality of UNESCO  National Association of Television Programming Executives.

Page 5 of 5

**Ted E. F. Roberts**

## PUBLICATION RECORD (PRINT)

**A News Reporter's Guide**, (1976) New Era Printing Press, Freetown, Sierra Leone

**Instructional Broadcasting In Borno State** (Nigeria) (1986) Hodder and Stoughton, Lagos, Nigeria.

**Practical Radio Promotions** (1992) Focal Press, Stoneham, Massachusetts.

**The Independent Radio Producer** (Work in Progress)

Various articles and reports on international and intercultural communications in magazines, newspapers and refereed journals and periodicals. Will submit copies on request.

## PUBLICATION RECORD (NON-PRINT)

I have, in forty years, written, produced and presented on radio and television, thousands of programs covering political economic, and social issues. I have won seven international awards over the past nine years for documentaries dealing with conditions in Africa and the Diaspora. In the last ten years I have won awards for:

**"The Street Children of Africa" (Voice of America)**

**"Two Liberian Presidents" (Voices of Africa).**

**"The Missing Link" (Nightline Africa)**

**"A Tale Of Two Cities" (Nightline Africa)**

**"Children At War"** (placed second in international competition)

**"Everybody's Talking,"—a millennium special. (January 2000)**

**"Special Achievement Award" (1996)**

**"Special Achievement Award" (2000) for Coverage of Zimbabwe elections.**

**"A Valley without Echo--Life and Times of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.,"** are poised to compete in the next series of international competitions for excellence in programming.

References and copies of most of my recent productions available on request.