

WYATT BURGHARDT TURNER

EDUCATOR – ADVOCATE

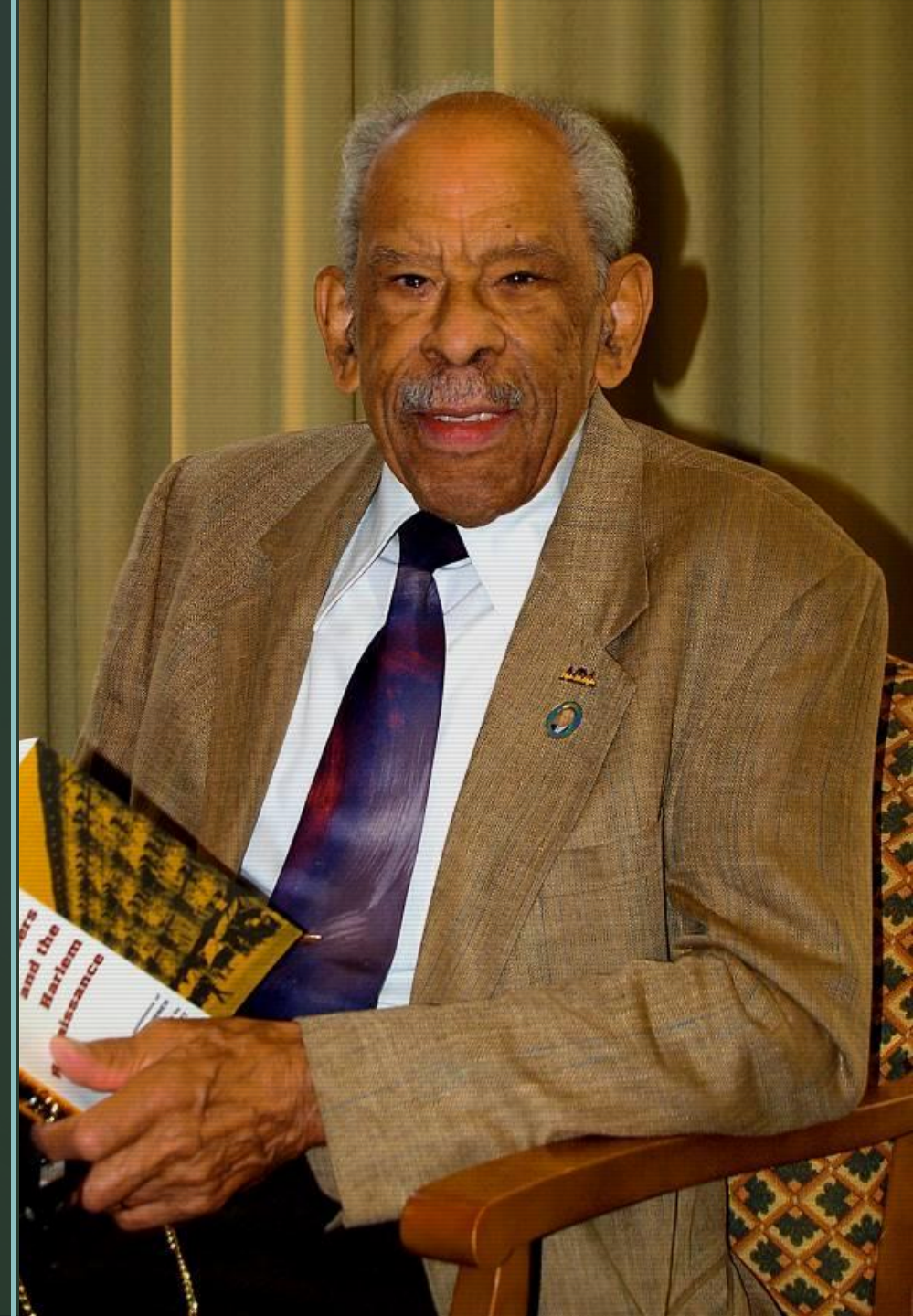
ACTIVIST - FAMILY MAN

July 30, 1915 – January 11, 2009

SBU ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR – 1968 - 1978

W. Burghardt "Burg" Turner

- Burg's father, Frank M. Turner, Sr., and mother Frosty Anna Duncan, named their third son, born in 1915, after renowned author, historian, sociologist, and activist W. E. Burghardt Du Bois, with whom his father had worked closely, founding and sustaining the NAACP.



Parents



Frank Mitchell Turner and Frosty Duncan Turner

Family

- As a teenager Dr. Turner left the household of his parents and five brothers in Jamaica, NY, to care for his grandmother in Richmond, KY, where he finished high school. He went on to Kentucky State College, graduating in 1939 cum laude with honors in history and sociology.

He is in the “Notable Kentucky African Americans Database” along with his parents at:
<https://nkaa.uky.edu/nkaa/items/show/2071>



The Turners – Second son Frank Jr. is missing.
Burg Turner is at far left in the front row.

Brothers



(standing) Burg, Duncan, Frank, Robert, (seated) Wilbur, Doug
(As they were known in the family)
Patchogue , family gathering circa 1975(?)

Brothers



Wilbur, Frank, Duncan, Doug, Robert, and Burg
As they were known in the family
Family Reunion, Jamaica, NY –

Romance

- After returning to New York Dr. Turner sought funds for graduate school by starting his own milk delivery route. It was during this endeavor that he met his wife of 66 years, Joyce Moore, daughter of noted author and activist Richard B. Moore.



Joyce Webster Moore
Morris HS Yearbook

Marriage

Burg and Joyce married shortly before he was inducted into the Army. He trained with the African American 92nd (Buffalo) Division at Camp Smith, in Virginia, Fort McClellan, Alabama, and Fort Huachuca in Arizona. In spite of passing all the tests for officer's training school and ASTP he was denied the opportunity for advanced training by his commanding officer, and eventually was deployed to Italy as a Quartermaster.



EDUCATION



Following his discharge in 1946, he returned to New York and the son he had born during his absence. He resumed graduate studies in history, completing his Masters, and all but his doctoral thesis. As his family grew, the need for full time employment necessitated a halt to that effort.



▸ CHILDREN



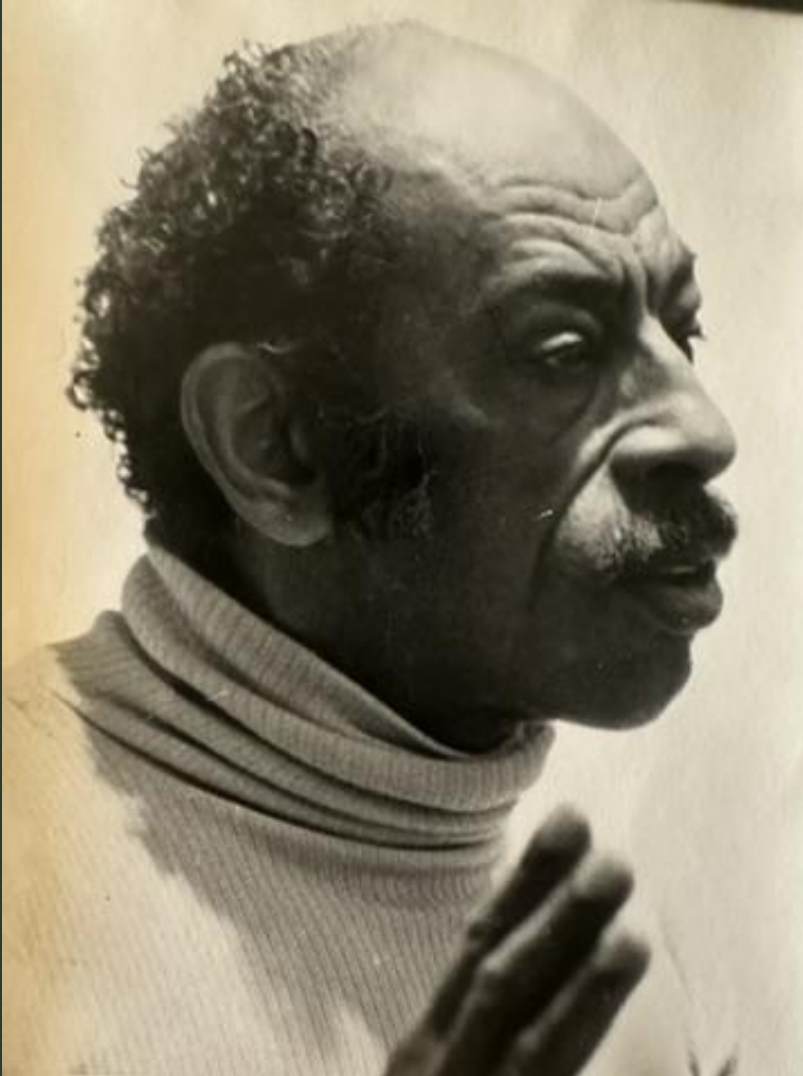
JOYCE, BURG, RICHARD, MITCH, SYLVIA
Family Reunion Cruise, August 2005

Grandchildren



Richard, Daniel, Nathan, Burg, Melody, Jacob
Burg's 90th birthday (2005)

STONY BROOK UNIVERSITY



- During his tenure at Stony Brook he introduced courses in African American History and Native American History in the history Department. As one of the first African American faculty members on the campus he was instrumental in bringing attention to the discrimination experienced by minorities in academia and society in general. He chaired Stony Brook's President's Committee on Equal Employment Opportunity.

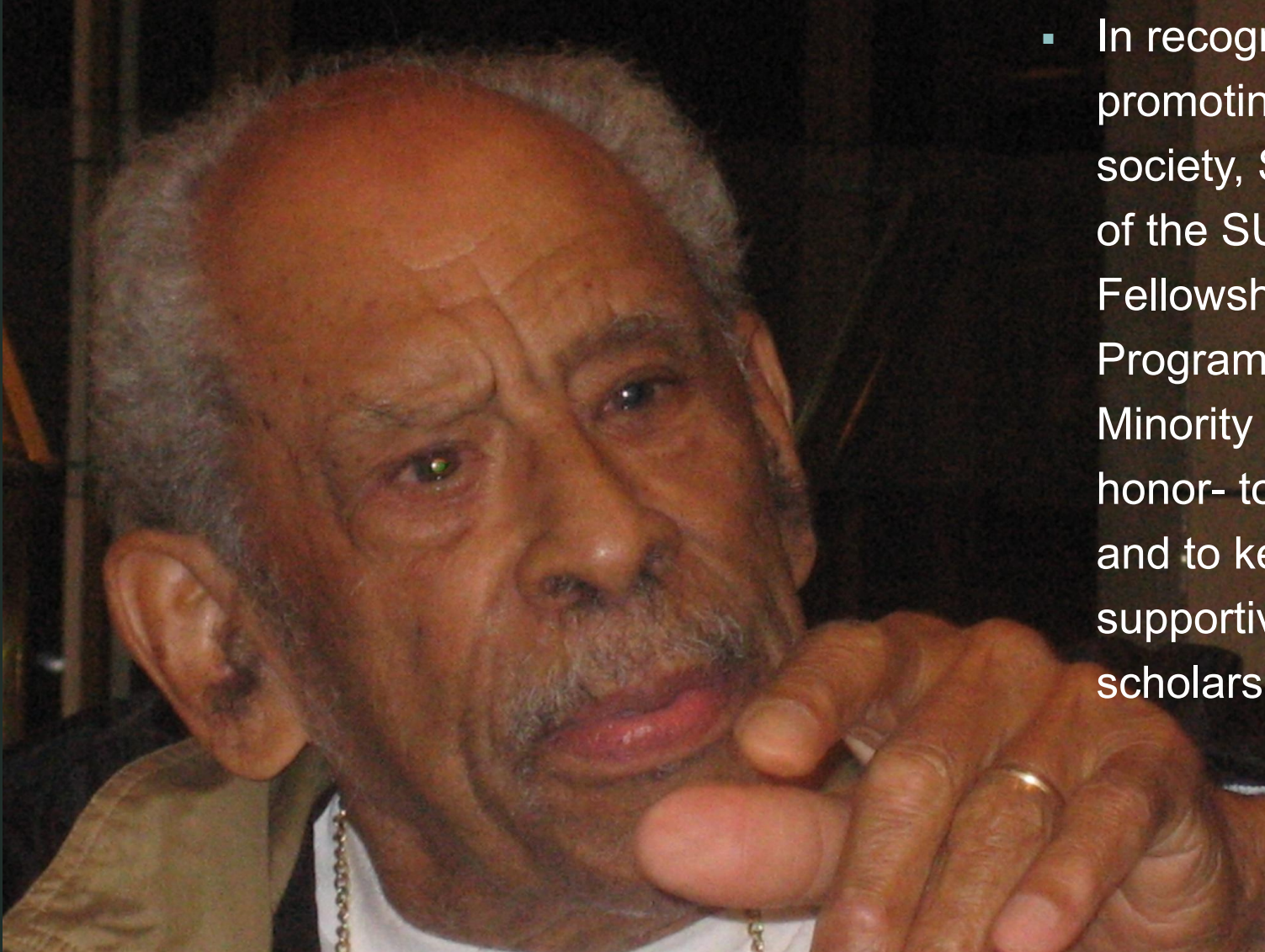
In the office



Circa 1970 (?)



Fellowship Named to Honor Turner



- In recognition of his dedication to promoting a more integrated and diverse society, Stony Brook's inaugural director of the SUNY Graduate Diversity Fellowship Program lobbied to have our Program for Underrepresented Ethnic Minority Graduate Students named in his honor- to recognize his accomplishments and to keep alive his vision of a supportive, integrated community of scholars.

THE TURNER FELLOWSHIP

- The **Dr. W. Burghardt Turner Fellowship** is a Graduate Fellowship Program for eligible underrepresented students whose immediate academic plans include obtaining graduate or professional degrees in a variety of disciplines at Stony Brook University.



DOCTOR TURNER (finally!)

Professor Turner did not receive his doctorate, due to some of the very obstacles that the Fellowship seeks to overcome. In 2007, Stony Brook University awarded Burg Turner an honorary Doctorate in Humane Letters.



DEAN LAWRENCE MARTIN WITH DR. TURNER

THE FIGHT CONTINUES!

- Today, the Turner Fellowship program continues to be the only ongoing, New York State Funded, Graduate student specific recruitment and retention program at Stony Brook University.