

Liberal Arts Education, Collaborative Research, and the Humanities: A Mellon 23 Collaborative Workshop Proposal

Rationale

This two-day Spring 2011 workshop brings together faculty from the Mellon 23 colleges to ask what role research currently does and theoretically should play in the undergraduate liberal arts education. While keeping an eye on a broad array of questions related to teaching undergraduates how to research in the humanities and the humanistic social sciences raised by recent Mellon-supported initiatives, we will focus especially on undergraduate involvement in sustained collaborative research projects, whether in the context of individual faculty members' own research projects, collaborations with libraries and museums, or undergraduate course-based projects designed to create and disseminate new knowledge. This workshop is premised upon our conviction that teaching the research process involves not just training students in the use of a set of concrete information literacy skills, but also requires the shaping of a specific type of intellectual curiosity and point of view— what we might call the “research imagination” - that will serve our students (both during their college years and beyond them) in the same way that the more discussed and more theorized liberal arts values of critical thinking and ethical living do. In a time when our students' research impulses and methods – their ways of locating, assimilating, and using information about past, present, and potential worlds - often astonish (and sometimes even horrify) us, the effort to sustain and extend our conversations about this topic seems especially urgent.

We will seek to address both philosophical and practical questions; we'll ask, for example, how we might (or might not) imagine the set of humanities research skills more often associated with graduate education and the research university as *potentially* being as much of a core aspect of a liberal arts education as critical thinking and effective writing. We will raise the equally large and vexed issue of whether undergraduates can and should be co-authors or equal collaborators with faculty in certain kind of humanistic research projects; how might we re-imagine innovative models for such collaborations? Yet we also plan to turn our attention to more technical but equally intractable questions related to the funding, employment, training and supervising of undergraduate researchers.

The workshop is designed to be useful to interested faculty regardless of whether or not they are currently involved with a collaborative research project involving undergraduates. (We include a list of faculty who have already expressed interest in the workshop below, but we hope that if funded we would have the Mellon 23 Collaborative Workshop Subcommittee's aid in identifying an even wider range of interested faculty.) The two-day meeting will be built around a series of individual workshops whose content will include pre-circulated readings, informal presentations by participants, and of course extensive, mediated discussion. While specific workshop topics will evolve depending on the interests, experience, and expertise of participants, we offer a preliminary list of topics below. Participants with a recent or ongoing research project involving undergraduates can present case studies, while others might present a particular problem or set of questions relevant to the possibilities for involving undergraduates in research in their own field. We also plan to invite two speakers to address us in talks that will be open to the entire surrounding academic community; Robin Valenza (English, University of Wisconsin-Madison) will speak on innovative ways of conceptualizing traditional forms of research for pedagogical

purposes (or, as she terms it, “Creative Research”), and another speaker from a to-be-determined center for undergraduate research will talk to us about ways such centers work to involve undergraduates in ongoing collaborative research projects, especially digital ones.

Pre- and post-conference

In order to enable us to begin the conversation before the actual workshop meeting and continue it afterwards, we will develop a conference website with associated blog accessible to all conference participants and other interested parties. The website and blog will allow us to post relevant background literature, links, and individual project descriptions and profiles in advance of the conference; a limited number of pre-conference readings will also be selected and disseminated. The conference website and blog will continue to be supported and accessible post-conference, acting as an archive of information about the conference as well as an ongoing resource and point of contact for faculty from the Mellon 23 and beyond interested in questions of collaborative research in the humanities. The design for workshop follow-up and evaluation will include plans for posting workshop results on this site and ensuring that the site is visible and accessible (for example by linking to it when relevant from the departmental websites of interested participants).

Potential panel topics

The research imagination: How do we imagine a research pedagogy that embodies core values of the liberal arts education?

Research skills: What transfers? (Within a discipline? Across disciplines? To future careers?)

Can undergraduates be equal collaborators? And what can we learn from the hard sciences about collaborating and co-writing with undergraduate researchers?

Before the thesis: building research skills into the syllabus

Supervising summer research

Course-based collaborative research projects

Pre-existing models of collaborative research and writing in our disciplines and their impact on collaboration with undergraduate researchers

Collaborative research with libraries and museums

Electronic process and products: using/creating digital archives in collaborative research projects

Publication and dissemination of undergraduate-generated collaborative research projects

Hiring and training effective undergraduate researchers

Potential outcomes

Proposal for a more permanent forum (print, electronic, and/or annual meeting) in which interested faculty from the Mellon 23 colleges and beyond can discuss these questions

Proposal for some reflective feedback models that would allow interested Mellon 23 faculty to track and share experiences of the process of collaborative research involving undergraduates

Post-conference website with reports summarizing individual workshop discussions

Proposal for a future conference (2-3 year horizon) in which attending faculty and undergraduate researchers present on the process of collaborative research and offer case studies about research pedagogy

Planned panels on topic of collaborative undergraduate research at some participants' discipline-specific annual conferences

Host Institution

Swarthmore College

Date

Spring 2011, two days (specific date to be determined)

Conference organizers

Rachel Sagner Buurma (English Literature, Swarthmore College)
 Nicola Courtright (Art History, Amherst College)
 Kendall Johnson (English Literature, Swarthmore College)
 Laura McGrane (English and American Literature, Haverford College)
 Erik Simpson (English, Grinnell College)

Note: Two of our five organizers (Laura McGrane, and Erik Simpson) attended the recent Mellon 23 assembly on undergraduate research.

Preliminary list of potential participants

Stephen Andrews, English department, Grinnell College
 Todd Armstrong, Russian Department, Grinnell College
 Shanna Benjamin, English department, Grinnell College
 Joe Drury, English Department, Wesleyan University
 Matthew Garrett, English Department, Wesleyan University
 Tammy Nyden, Philosophy
 Eric Song, English Department, Swarthmore College
 Robert Weinberg, History Department, Swarthmore College
 Joel Yurdin, Philosophy Department, Haverford College

Workshop liaison

Rachel Sagner Buurma, Department of English Literature, Swarthmore College
 rbuurma1@swarthmore.edu

Preliminary budget

Travel and accommodation expenses for faculty participants from the Mellon 23 (20 plane/train tickets @ \$300 each, 40 nights of accommodation @ \$120 each).....	\$10,800
Travel and accommodation expenses for 2 faculty participants from outside the Mellon 23.....	\$1000
Speaker travel and accommodation expenses.....	\$1200
Speaker stipends (2).....	\$2000
Conference website creation and maintenance.....	\$2000
Workshop organizers' stipend.....	\$1000
Other administrative expenses (photocopying, note-taker).....	\$500
Catering.....	\$1000
Staff support.....	\$500
Workshop evaluation (via electronic mediums, undertaken by project organizers).....	\$00
Total.....	\$20,000

RACHEL SAGNER BUURMA

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Philadelphia, PA 19104
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Education

Ph.D., English Literature, University of Pennsylvania, August 2005

B.A. with High Honors, Swarthmore College, June 1999

Honors major in English, honors minor and course major in Sociology and Anthropology

Dissertation

The Anonymous System: Anonymity and Corporate Authority in Nineteenth-Century British Literary Culture

Employment

Assistant Professor, Department of English Literature, Swarthmore College (2008-present)

Assistant Professor, Department of English, University of Toronto (2007-2008)

Postdoctoral Lecturer, Department of English, University of Pennsylvania (2005 - 2007)

Awards and Fellowships

Hungerford Fund Research Grant (Swarthmore College) (2009)

SIG Research Grant (University of Toronto) (2008)

Connaught Research Start-up Award (University of Toronto) (2007)

James and Sylvia Thayer Short-Term Fellowship (UCLA Library) (May-June 2006)

American Dissertation Fellowship, American Association of University Women (2004 -2005)

Josephine De Kármán Dissertation Fellowship (2004 -2005) (declined)

Benjamin Franklin Fellowship, University of Pennsylvania (1999 -2004)

Selected publications

"Critical Histories of Omniscience," invited contribution to *New Directions in the History of the Novel*, Patrick Parrinder, Andrew Nash, Nicola Wilson eds. (forthcoming)

"The Professional Author and His Publisher," chapter of *The Oxford Handbook of the Victorian Novel* (forthcoming 2010)

"Anonyma's Authors," *Studies in English Literature* 48:4 (Autumn 2008)

"Ephemeral Forms: E.S. Dallas, Novel Reading, and the Victorian Review," *English Language Notes* 46:1 (Spring/Summer 2008)

"Individuality, Corporate Authority and the Archive: the Production of Authorship in Late-Victorian England." *Victorian Studies* 50:1 (Autumn 2007)

Collaborative Electronic Projects

Faculty Director, Early Novels Database (END) at University of Pennsylvania Annenberg Rare Book and Manuscript Library Pelt Library (2009-present)

Access the in-progress database at <http://hdl.library.upenn.edu/1017/78359>

Project Manager, Transatlantic Fiction Project, University of Pennsylvania Annenberg Rare Book

and Manuscript Library (2004-2007)

Selected Talks, Conference Papers and Presentations

- "The Materiality of the Victorian Review" (invited paper, The University of Pennsylvania Seminar in the History of the Material Text, October 2009)
- "Critical Histories of Omniscience," (Narrative Dominions: Oxford History of the Novel in English Conference, London, July 2009)
- "The Persistence of Victorian Ephemera" (North American Victorian Studies Conference, Cambridge, July 2009)
- "Readings of the Victorian Review: Critical Free Indirect Discourse, Ephemera and Republishing, and the New Historicism" (invited paper, Delaware Valley British Studies Seminar, April 2009)
- "Ephemeral Forms: Fugitive Writing, Literary Durability, and the Victorian Review" (Upcoming North American Victorian Studies Association, Yale, November 2008)
- "The Character of Impersonality" (Research Society for Victorian Periodicals, Roehampton U, July 2008)
- Invited panel moderator, Knowledge, Culture, and Human Rights Colloquium (Institute for the Study of Law, Technology, and Culture, University of Toronto Faculty of Law, May 2008)
- "Margaret Oliphant and the Materiality of the Unpublished" (North American Victorian Studies Association, October 2007)
- "Anarchism, Cosmopolitanism, Print Culture" (Northeast Victorian Studies Association, April 2007)
- "Margaret Oliphant's *Annals of a Publishing House*: Theorizing *Blackwood's Magazine* as an Affiliative Network" (MLA 2005 Victorian Division)
- "'By One of the Firm': Corporate Authority and Literary Collaboration in Trollope" (Northeast Victorian Studies Association, April 2005)
- "Ideology of the Archive: Theories and Practices of Archival Research in Literary and Cultural Studies" (Presentation to English Department Proseminar, NYU, Fall 2004)

Teaching Experience, Swarthmore College

- Close Reading and Its Discontents* (first-year seminar, writing intensive, Fall 2008, Fall 2009);
- The Rise of the Novel* (core course, Fall 2008)
- Formalisms and Historicisms* (core course, seminar-style, Spring 2009)
- Victorian Studies: the Culture of the Review* (core course, lecture with discussion, Spring 2009)
- The Nineteenth-Century Novel and the Canon* (upper-level course, Fall 2009)

Selected Other Activities

- Swarthmore College Interpretation Theory Committee, 2009-
- Swarthmore College Gender and Sexuality Studies Committee, 2009-
- Swarthmore College Committee on Awards and Fellowships, 2009-
- Co-founder and coordinator, University of Toronto Nineteenth Century Seminar (Fall 2007-)
- Member, English Department Undergraduate Curriculum Executive Committee (2005-2007)
- Member, Provost's "Women in Academe" Working Group (2004-2005)

NICOLA COURTRIGHT

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EDUCATION

- 1990 Ph.D Institute of Fine Arts, New York University
Dissertation: "Gregory XIII's Tower of the Winds in the Vatican"
1978 M.A. Yale University
1976-77 Bayerische Julius-Maximilians Universität, Würzburg, Germany
1976 B.A. Oberlin College

SELECTED HONORS AND AWARDS

- 2004-5 American Association of University Women post-doctoral grant
1999-2000 Amherst College Senior Faculty Fellowship for sabbatical
1994-95 American Council of Learned Societies post-doctoral grant
Amherst College Trustee Faculty Fellowship
'91, '95, '97, '00, '01 Amherst College Faculty Research Grant
'04
1982-83 American Academy Rome Prize Fellowship (Kress/AAR/Henfield)
1976-77 Fulbright-Hays Grant in Art History, West Germany

SELECTED EMPLOYMENT

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|---------|-------------------------------|------------------------|
| 2008 | Associate Dean of the Faculty | Amherst College |
| 2004 | Professor | Amherst College |
| 1998- | Associate Professor | Amherst College |
| 1990-98 | Assistant Professor | Amherst College |
| 1989-90 | Visiting Asst. Professor | Amherst College |
| 1987-88 | Lecturer | Princeton University |
| 1986-87 | Visiting Instructor | Connecticut College |
| 1986 | Visiting Instructor | University of Delaware |

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

- The Papacy and the Art of Reform in Sixteenth-Century Rome: Gregory XIII's Tower of the Winds in the Vatican, series "Monuments of Papal Rome," ed. Joseph Connors and Irving Lavin, Cambridge University Press (Cambridge and New York, 2003). Honorable mention for the *Premio Salimbeni per la Storia e la Critica d'Arte*, 2004
Art and the Invention of Queenly Authority in France (book in progress)
"A New Place for Queens in Early Modern France," in The Politics of Space: European Courts ca. 1500-1750, ed. George Gorse and Malcolm Smuts (Rome: Bulzoni, 2009), 267-91
"The King's Sculptures in the Queen's Garden at Fontainebleau," for Medieval, Renaissance and Baroque: A Cat's Cradle for Marilyn Aronberg Lavin, ed. David A. Levine and Jack W. Freiberg (Itasca Press, 2009)
"A Garden and a Gallery at Fontainebleau: Imagery of Rule for Medici Queens," for The Court Historian 10.1 (2005), 55-84.
"From Gregory XIII to Louis XIV: The Art and Politics of Reform in France," in Arte e scienza nella Roma di Gregorio XIII Boncompagni (1572-1585), colloquium proceedings, American Academy in Rome, 2004 (in press)
"Imitation, Innovation, and Renovation in the Counter Reformation: Landscapes *all'antica* in the Vatican Tower of the Winds," in Antiquity and its Interpreters, ed. Alina Payne, Ann Kuttner, and Rebekah Smick (Cambridge, 2000), 126-142.
"Origins and Meanings of Rembrandt's Late Drawing Style," Art Bulletin, 78 (September 1996): 485-510

SELECTED LECTURES

- “La Reine ‘salique’: La Représentation de son autorité dans les palais royaux de la Renaissance et de l’ère baroque,” Collège de France, Paris, March 2009 (*invited*)
- “The Exchange of Queens in Early Modern France and Spain and the Fiction of Peace,” CIHA: 32nd Congress of the International Committee of the History of Art, in the session *Cultural and Artistic Exchange in the Making of the Modern World 1500-1900*, Melbourne, Australia, January 2008
- “The French Queen’s Place in Space,” *Janson La-Palme Colloquium - Architecture and Ritual in Early Modern Europe: Interdisciplinary Strategies of Interpretation*, Princeton University, March 2007 (*invited*)
- “A New Place for Queens in Early Modern France,” in *The Politics of Space: Courts in Europe and the Mediterranean, ca. 1500-1750*, Huntington Library, January 2007 (*invited*)
- “Ideals of Rulership in Louis XIV’s Bedrooms,” in *Royal Myths of Authority in French Ritual, Art, and Ceremony* organizer for the Society for Court Studies, Renaissance Society of America, March 2006
- “Medici Florence and the Invention of Queenly Authority in France,” University of Georgia, Athens, March 2005 (*invited*)
- “Gregory XIII and Reform in France,” *Arte e scienza nella Roma di Gregorio XIII Boncompagni (1572-1585)*, University degli Studi di Roma “La Sapienza” and the American Academy in Rome, June 2004 (*invited*)
- “Love and Politics: Imagery of Elizabeth I and the Queenship of Marie de’Medici,” North American Conference for British Studies, in session *Transnational Perspectives on Early Stuart England: The French Connection*, November 2002
- “Gregory XIII and the Art of Calendrical Politics in the Counter-Reformation,” Università degli Studi di Roma “La Sapienza,” March 2002 (*invited*)
- “The Pope Who Made Our Millennium: Gregory XIII and the Art of Calendrical Politics in the Counter-Reformation,” *Millennium Lecture*, Institute for Advanced Study, Dec. 1999 (*invited*)
- “Artistic and Political Inventions in the Marie de’ Medici Cycle,” Colloquium in Honor of Egbert Haverkamp-Begemann’s 75th Birthday, Institute of Fine Arts, NYU, May 1998 (*invited*)
- “Languages of Truth and Beauty in Rembrandt’s Late Drawing Style,” National Gallery of Art, Feb. 1997 (*invited*)
- “Observations on the Origins and Meaning of Rembrandt’s Drawing Style,” Daniel H. Silberberg Lecture Series,

SELECTED OTHER ACTIVITIES

Amherst College

Chair, Department of Fine Arts 2001-2003

Selected committees:

Museum Accreditation, 2005-6; Trusteeship (elected by faculty at large), 2003-5; Ad Hoc Committee on Tenure, 2003-4; Admission and Financial Aid, 1998-99, 2005-; Panels for prospective students of diverse backgrounds; Admissions Dean Search, 1997-99; Student Fellowships, 2000-02; Public Service Fellowships, 2000-2005; Alpha Delta Phi Fellowships; Folger Fellowships (Chair, 1999-2002)

College Art Association

President, College Art Association, 2006-2008; Member of the Board, College Art Association, 2000-2009

American Council of Learned Societies

Executive Committee of the Delegates, 2005-8

Panelist, *Presidential and Scholarly Leadership in the Humanities*, ACLS/AAU Humanities Convocation, 5 2006 Jury, American Council of Learned Societies Collaborative Research Fellowships, 2009-10, 2010-11

National Committee for the History of Art

Member, 2008-

Symposium, Conference, Exhibition organizer

Co-chair, Renaissance symposium in honor of Marilyn Lavin’s 80th birthday, Institute of Fine Arts, NYU, 11/ 2005

Co-Chair, with Abby Zanger (French, Harvard) and Sheila ffollott (Art History, George Mason Univ.), conference, Prerogatives of Rule in Early Modern France: Royal Women from Catherine de Médicis to Marie-Antoinette, Amherst College, November 1999

Co-chair, Re-Framing the Renaissance, meeting of the New England Renaissance Conference, Amherst College, Nov. 1990

Organizer, “Northern Travelers to Italy: Sixteenth-Century Drawings from New England Collections,” Mead Art Museum, Amherst, Mass., October 26 - December 9, 1990

- KENDALL A. JOHNSON -
Email: kjohnso1@swarthmore.edu
websites.swarthmore.edu/kendalljohnson

EMPLOYMENT:

- 2007-present **Associate Professor** with continuous tenure, *Swarthmore College*
Department of English Literature
- 2008-09 **Visiting Associate Professor, Fulbright Lecture / Research Award**
The University of Hong Kong, American Studies Programme
School of Modern Languages and Cultures
- 2001-2007 **Assistant Professor**, *Swarthmore College*
Department of English Literature
- 2000-01 **Post-Doctoral Lecturer**, *University of Pennsylvania*
Department of English Literature

EDUCATION:

- 1999 **Ph.D.**, Department of English, *University of Pennsylvania*
1999 **Graduate Certificate**, Urban Studies Program, *University of Pennsylvania*
1995 **M. A.**, Department of English, *University of Pennsylvania*
1991 **B. A.**, English, *University of Michigan*, Honors Program

Areas of expertise in publication and pedagogy include: American Literature, from the 15th– 20th centuries; Native American Cultures and Literatures; African-American Literature and Culture; Asian-American Literature; Ethnic and Race Studies; Law and Literature; Intersection of Literary Studies and Anthropology/Sociology; Visual Culture and Film Studies; Autobiography Studies.

PUBLICATIONS (selected):

- *Critical Companion to Henry James: A Literary Reference to His Life and Work* (contributing co-editor). New York: FactsOnFile, 2009.
- *Henry James and the Visual*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2007.
- "Nineteenth-Century Visual Culture." In *Henry James in Context*. Edited by David McWhirter. Chapter completed and submitted to Cambridge University Press; forthcoming 2010.
- "Biographical Revision and the Changing Lives of Henry James." In *The Oxford Historical Guide to Henry James*. Edited by Eric Haralson and John Carlos Rowe. Chapter completed and submitted to Oxford University Press; forthcoming 2010.
- "Imagining Self and Community in American Indian Autobiography." In *The Columbia Guide to American Indian Literature of the United States Since 1945*. Edited by Eric Cheyfitz. New York: Columbia University Press, 2006. 357-409.
- "Peace, Friendship, and Financial Panic: Reading the Mark of Black Hawk in *Life of Ma-Ka-Tai- Me-She-Kia-Kiak*." *American Literary History* 19.4 (Winter 2007): 771-99.
- "Rising from the stain on a painter's palette: George Catlin's Picturesque and the Legibility of Indian Removal." *Nineteenth-Century Prose* 29.2 (Fall 2002): 69-93.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS (selected):

- "The Speculative Romance of Early Sino-American Commerce in The Journals of Major Samuel Shaw, the First American Consul at Canton (1847)," University of Hong Kong, Narratives of Free Trade in Early Sino-American Relations, 16 June 2009.

- "Ginseng, Genre, and the Continental Drifts of Early American Commerce," University of Hong Kong's Center for Anthropological Research, Migrant Entrepreneurship in the Mainland and Chinese Diaspora, 13 June 2009.
- "Matthew Perry's Gunboat Diplomacy and the Visual Aesthetics of Macau's Protestant Graveyard," University of Macao, First International Conference on Macau Studies: Intercultural Exchanges between East and West. 25 May 2009.
- "The Shadow of Canton in Herman Melville's 'Benito Cereno' (1855)," American Studies Programme, The University of Hong Kong, 18 March 2009
- "World Trade and the Early American Stereotypes of Canton, China", United States Consulate, Guangzhou, China, 11 March 2009
- "Seeing Macau through the Eyes of Nineteenth-Century America: Gunboat Diplomacy and the Changing Stereotypes of the Canton Trade", Fulbright Research Conference (Delivered in the Dom Pedro V Theater, Macao), 6 March 2009.
- "Henry James's Visions of Finance Capital," Department of English, University of Hong Kong, 12 February 2009.
- "Looking back at the Second Inaugural Address of Abraham Lincoln," *Obama's Oratory: America's Rhetoric of Presidential Inauguration*, Journalism and Media Studies Center, The University of Hong Kong, 20 January 2009.
- "The New American Specie(s): The Crisis of National Character in Samuel Shaw's Vision of Canton" Hong Kong University, Department of Sociology (21 November 2008); Cultural Affairs Bureau of the Macao S.A.R. Government (25 November 2008); Macao University of Science and Technology (20 February 2009).
- "Seeing White Elephants in Newport: Cultural Metalepsis and the Global Frame of American Capital," Jamesian Strands Conference, Newport, Rhode Island, July 2008.

CONFERENCE, FILM SERIES, LECTURE SERIES ORGANIZER:

- "Narratives of Free Trade in Early Sino-American Relations," 15-19 June 2009. Co-sponsored by China West Studies (Strategic Research Theme of University of Hong Kong), School of Modern Languages and Cultures (Hong Kong University), The Hong Kong-America Center, Instituto Cultural do Governo da R.A.E. de Macau, School of Asia-Pacific Studies (Sun Yat-sen University), Department of History (Sun Yat-sen University).
- Roundtable discussions at the *Instituto Cultural do Macao* (17 June 2009); *Sun Yat-sen University*, Guangzhou (19 June 2009).
Web address: (<http://websites.swarthmore.edu/kendalljohnson/freetrade.html>)

ACTIVE COURSE SYLLABI: (online at: websites.swarthmore.edu/kendalljohnson/class.html)

GRANTS AND AWARDS:

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|---------|--|
| 2008-09 | Fulbright Research / Lecturer Award
American Studies Programme, <i>University of Hong Kong</i> |
| 2005 | National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) Summer Seminar: <i>British and Indigenous Cultural Encounters in Native North America: 1580-1785</i> , at the <i>John Carter Brown Library, Brown University</i> |
| 2004-05 | James A. Michener Research Fellowship, <i>Swarthmore College</i> |

WORKS IN PROGRESS:

Hollowed Voices: Reformulations of the Classical Oracle in Eighteenth-Century British Print Culture: 1680-1760 (book manuscript)

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS:

- Organizer/Facilitator, "Digital Archives, the Liberal Arts and the Future of the Humanities," Haverford College (April 2009). A national gathering of liberal arts faculty to discuss archives, pedagogy, research, access, and the construction of digital archives.
- Chair, "Anatomies of Exchange: Troping the Physiological in Transatlantic Culture," American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies (ASECS), Richmond, (March 2009)
- "Contextualizing Embellishment: Playing Games with Charlotte Charke's *Life*," American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies (ASECS), Portland, March 2008
- "Mute Prophecy: Duncan Campbell and the Resonant Page," American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies (ASECS), Atlanta, March 2007
- "Bewitching Politics and Oracular Pronouncements," Temple University, February 2007
- "Apartheid: Ethics and Economics in Athol Fugard's Work." Pennsylvania Humanities Council, Lantern Theater, Philadelphia, September 2006
- "*The British Apollo* and *Athenian Mercury*: Newspapers as Books," DeBartolo Conference (History of the Book), University of Southern Florida, February 2006
- "The Public Sphere and Literary Form: Forms of Publicness, A Roundtable" American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies (ASECS), Las Vegas, March 2005
- "Voicing the Oracle in Early-Century Newspapers and Periodicals," American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies (ASECS), Las Vegas, March 2005
- "Mother Shipton Speaks: Sounding the Oracle in Eighteenth-Century London," Modern Language Association (MLA), Philadelphia, December 2004
- "The Audible Novel," British Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies (BSECS), Oxford University, UK, January 2004
- "The Year: Experiments in Literary History" (Organizer, Chair and Respondent), International Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies (ISECS), UCLA, August 2003
- "Torment, the Tie that Binds: Cruelty as Social Discourse in Charlotte Lennox's *The Female Quixote*," DeBartolo Conference (History of Manners), University of Southern Florida, February 2003
- "In Praise of the Highlander: Johnson and Crèvecoeur on the Eve of American Revolution," Modern Language Association (MLA), Washington D.C., December 2000
- "Uncommon Sense: Oracle Noises in Henry Fielding's Journalism," American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies (ASECS), Philadelphia, April 2000
- "Converting the Quixote: The Anti-Romance in Transatlantic Context," Modern Language Association (MLA), San Francisco, December 1998
- "Transatlantic Conversions," Symbiosis Conference, College of Saint Mark's and Saint John's, Plymouth, UK, March 1997
- "Academic Development in Post-Apartheid South African Universities," School of Education, Oxford University, May 1995

RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS:

Restoration and Eighteenth-Century British literature, with particular concentration in novel, drama, non-fictional prose, and visual culture; satire; religious writers, conversion narratives; enthusiasm; sound studies. Eighteenth- and early nineteenth-century American literature; histories of the novel; Transatlantic studies; South African literature and political history; historiography and autobiography; digital archives, research and pedagogy.

Erik Simpson

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CURRENT POSITION

Associate Professor of English, Grinnell College

EDUCATION

Ph.D. in English Literature, University of Pennsylvania, 2001. Dissertation: "Revising Inspiration: Minstrels, Bards, and Improvisers in British and Irish Literature, 1757-1830," directed by Stuart Curran, read by Michael Gamer, David DeLaura, and Penny Fielding
M.A. in English Literature, University of Pennsylvania, 1997
B.A. in English Literature, Highest Distinction and Phi Beta Kappa, University of Virginia, 1994

BOOKS

Mercenaries in British and American Literature, 1790-1830: Writing, Fighting, and Marrying for Money (book project forthcoming from Edinburgh University Press in the series Edinburgh Studies in Transatlantic Literatures, scheduled for publication in June 2010).
Literary Minstrelsy, 1770-1830: Minstrels and Improvisers in British, Irish, and American Literature (Palgrave Macmillan Studies in the Enlightenment, Romanticism and the Cultures of Print, 2008).

PEER-REVIEWED ARTICLES

"A Good One Though Rather for the Foreign Market': Mercenary Writing and Scott's *Quentin Durward*," forthcoming in *Studies in Romanticism*
"Minstrelsy Goes to Market: Prize Poems, Minstrel Contests, and Romantic Poetry," *ELH* 71 (2004), 691-718
"The Minstrels of Modern Italy': Improvisation Comes to Britain," *European Romantic Review* 14 (2003), 345-67
"Threaded Discussion on the Internet and in the Classroom: Problems of Translation and an Approach to Emergence," *Journal of the M/MLA* 36.2 (Fall 2003), 23-39

REVIEWS AND OTHER SHORT PIECES

Entry on "Prize Poems," in process for the *Blackwell Encyclopedia of Romanticism*
Review of Angela Esterhammer's *Romanticism and Improvisation, 1750-1850*, *The Review of English Studies* 2009; doi: 10.1093/res/hgp009
Review of Broadview editions of *Northanger Abbey* and *The Monk*, *The Jane Austen Society of North America News* 20:3 (Winter 2004), 21
Review of Nick Groom's *The Making of Percy's Reliques*, *Modern Philology* 100:1 (August 2002), 116-118

HONORS, AWARDS, GRANTS, AND FELLOWSHIPS

Grinnell College Study Leave, competitive grant extending a sabbatical to a full year, 2008-09
Expanding Knowledge Initiative Curricular Development Grant, Grinnell College, 2007
Harris Fellowship, Grinnell College, competitive yearlong research leave, 2005-06
Research Grant, Grinnell College, for work at the Harry Ransom Humanities Research Center (Austin, TX), 2004
Research Grant, Grinnell College, for work at the British Library, 2002
Curricular Development Award, Grinnell College, for *Connections* (pedagogical website), 2002
2002 Diane Hunter Dissertation Prize, University of Pennsylvania English Department, for dissertations submitted in 2001
Penn Prize for Excellence in Teaching by Graduate Students, 2001
Mellon Dissertation Fellow, University of Pennsylvania, 1999-2000
Dean's Award for Distinguished Teaching, University of Pennsylvania, 1998
Benjamin Franklin Fellowship, University of Pennsylvania, 1995-99
Beinecke Memorial Scholar, 1993-96
B.A. with Highest Distinction, University of Virginia, 1994
Phi Beta Kappa, University of Virginia, 1993

HUMANITIES COMPUTING EXPERIENCE

Web Developer and Author, *Connections: A Hypertext Resource for Literature*, 2002-present
Project Leader and Programmer, *The Transatlantic 1790s* (PHP/MySQL database-backed Web project with six students), summer 2004
Participant, Midwest Instructional Technology Center Symposia on Teaching with Technology in the Humanities, Summer 2003 and 2004

Primary Graphic Designer and Member of Web Development Team, English Department Web Site, University of Pennsylvania, 1999
Designer and Webmaster, Penn TeachWeb, 1997-2001
Editorial Assistant, The [University of] Pennsylvania Edition of *Frankenstein* on CD-ROM, 1997

CREDENTIALS

My dossier is available upon request.

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