

Proposal for Mellon 23 Faculty Workshop

Teaching and Maintaining Multidisciplinary First-Year Seminar Programs

Workshop Liaison: Dara Rossman Regaignon, Director of College Writing and Assistant Professor of English, Pomona College (dara.regaignon@pomona.edu)

As of August 2009, at least 13 of the Mellon 23 institutions had or were considering implementing programs that require all entering students to take a topic-based, writing-intensive seminar. Such programs provide many advantages: small class sizes; a focus on critical reading, thinking, writing, and discussion; immediate close contact between faculty and students. In addition, they typically provide ways for faculty to collaborate pedagogically and to exchange ideas. This workshop will bring together faculty from a number of Mellon 23 institutions to discuss and reflect on the particular possibilities and challenges of teaching and maintaining such programs. The institutions include those that have longstanding programs, as well as those whose programs have just been launched and those newly considering such requirements. Our collaborative and participatory framework allows us to take advantage of these different perspectives.

This two-day workshop, to be held at Pomona College during Winter 2010-11, will examine the current state of first-year seminars at a selection of institutions participating in the Mellon 23. In preparation, participants will provide any documents they have, including proposals for new programs, policy documents, faculty development and program assessment plans, and individual course syllabi. These will be available to all participants, both before and after the workshop, through a password-protected website hosted by Pomona. This site will also provide an ongoing forum for discussion, even after the workshop itself has concluded.

Over the course of the two days, participants will then lead sessions investigating a variety of intersecting questions centered around the following concerns:

- At the most local level, participants will be able to exchange ideas about teaching -- leading discussion; designing assignments; responding to student work; and so forth -- with a community of fellow teachers focused on teaching first-year students at elite colleges.
- Programmatically, participants will exchange, reflect on, and develop ideas about how to capitalize upon the constitutive tension of first-year seminar programs: between a coherent programmatic vision, on the one hand, and the openness that permits students and faculty to work on focused, innovative topics. As part of this, we'll think about how to evaluate these programs and our goals for what students learn in them.
- Participants will benefit from seeing a variety of different models for first-year seminars. How have longstanding programs reinvented themselves to retain faculty buy-in? What innovations have new programs developed that can help reinvigorate existing programs?

It's our hope that this workshop will catalyze long-ranging discussions about the role of first-year seminars in liberal arts education in the 21st century. We anticipate that this workshop will foster curricular and pedagogical innovation, and hope that faculty will

return to their home institutions with new ideas for program policy and assessment. Because Pomona will continue to host the website of first-year seminar documents, we anticipate that this will become an ongoing resource for faculty and administrators at participating institutions as they build and renew their first-year programs.

Workshop organizers (two-page CVs attached):

Robert Geitz, Associate Professor of Computer Science, Oberlin College
(bob.geitz@oberlin.edu)

Jyl Gentzler, William R. Kenan, Jr. Professor of Philosophy and Associate Director of the Writing Center, Amherst College (jgentzler@amherst.edu)

Dara Rossman Regaignon, Director of College Writing and Assistant Professor of English, Pomona College (dara.regaignon@pomona.edu)

Potential participants:

Brenda Boyle, Assistant Professor of English and Director of the Writing Center, Denison University (boyleb@denison.edu)

Pamela Bromley, Assistant Director of College Writing, Pomona College
(pamela.bromley@pomona.edu)

Richard Freedman, John C Whitehead Professor of Music, Haverford College
(rfreedma@haverford.edu)

James Harold, Director of the Weissman Center for Leadership and Associate Professor of Philosophy, Mount Holyoke College (jharold@mtholyoke.edu)

Matt Kretchmar, Associate Professor of Computer Science and Dean of First-Year Students, Denison University (kretchmar@denison.edu)

Susan McWilliams, Assistant Professor of Politics, Pomona College
(susan.mcwilliams@pomona.edu)

Laurie McMillin, Associate Professor of Rhetoric and Composition, Oberlin College
(laurie.mcmillin@oberlin.edu)

Wendy Menefee-Libey, Director of Learning Programs, Harvey Mudd College
(wendy_menefee-libey@pomona.edu)

Susanna Mrozik, Associate Professor of Religion, Mount Holyoke College
(smrozik@mtholyoke.edu)

Margaret Oakes, Associate Professor of English, Furman University
(margaret.oakes@furman.edu)

David Ratner, Alfred Sargent Lee '41 and Mary Farley Ames Lee Professor of Biology, Amherst College (diratner@amherst.edu)

David Redburn, Professor of Sociology, Furman University
(david.redburn@furman.edu)

Carol Rutz, Director of the College Writing Program, Carleton College
(crutz@pomona.edu)

John Servos, Anson D. Morse Professor of History, Amherst College
(jwservos@amherst.edu)

Debora Sherman, Associate Director of College Writing, Assistant Professor of Rhetoric and Composition and English, Haverford College (dsherman@haverford.edu)

Kathleen Skubikowski, Assistant Dean for Instruction and Associate Professor of English, Middlebury College (skubikow@middlebury.edu)

Ann Velenchik, Associate Professor of Economics and Director of the Writing Program,
Wellesley College (avelench@wellesley.edu)
Winifred J. Wood, Senior Lecturer in Writing, Wellesley College
(wwood@wellesley.edu)

Proposed Budget

Staff Costs

part-time staff support for logistics	\$ 200
student assistant	\$ 200

Stipends

workshop organizers	\$ 1,000
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Travel for Participants

roundtrip flights for 17 non-Clairemont participants (\$600 x 17)	\$10,200
ground transportation and parking	\$ 500

Lodging for Participants

two nights' hotel stay for 17 non-Clairemont participants	\$ 4,760
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Food for Participants

meals from dinner Friday through breakfast Sunday for 22	\$ 3,000
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Other Administrative Costs

conference packets	\$ 50
postage, telephone, fax, copying	\$ 50

Total Workshop Costs	\$19,960
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Curriculum Vitae

Robert F. Geitz

Campus Address

Computer Science Department
Oberlin College
Oberlin, OH 44074
INTERNET: bob@cs.oberlin.edu

Office Phone

(440) 775-8379

Home Address

26 S. Cedar St.
Oberlin, OH 44074

Home Phone

(440) 774-1977

Education

IFRICS (Institute for Retraining in Computer Science), 1984
Ph.D. (Mathematics), 1980, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
M.S. (Statistics), 1980, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
B.S. (Mathematics), 1974, Case-Western Reserve University
B.A. (Philosophy), 1974, Case-Western Reserve University

Employment History

1999-2002: Associate Dean of Arts and Sciences, Oberlin College:
Fall, 2000: Acting Dean of Arts and Sciences, Oberlin College:
1988-present: Associate Professor of Computer Science, Oberlin College
1985-1988: Assistant Professor of Computer Science, Oberlin College
1980-1985: Assistant Professor of Mathematics, Oberlin College
1974-1980: Teaching Assistant, University of Illinois

Research Interests

My research in computer science is largely concerned with various problems in image synthesis, particularly in the development and applications of ray tracing and global illumination. Many of my efforts in the past have been devoted to revamping the introductory curriculum in the computer science major, with the support of several grants from the National Science Foundation.

Grants Received

- 1986-87 Oberlin Curriculum Development Fellowship
- 1988 National Science Foundation Instruction and Laboratory Improvement Grant
#USE-8851262: Computer Graphics for Majors and Nonmajors \$37,337
- 1988 ACM SIGGRAPH Educator's Conference Grant
- 1988 Alfred P. Sloan Foundation NLA course development grant
- 1991 ACM SIGGRAPH Educator's Conference Grant
- 1991 National Science Foundation Undergraduate Course and Curriculum
Development Grant #USE-9150385: Laboratory Courses for Computer Science
\$20,356
- 1992 National Science Foundation Instruction and Laboratory Improvement Grant
#USE-9250915: Scientific Visualization Laboratory \$37,150
- 1992 National Science Foundation Undergraduate Course and Curriculum
Development Grant #USE-9155851: Laboratory Courses for Computer Science
\$56,216

Papers and Talks

1. "The Cobb-Douglas production function," Module #509, UMAP Modules and Monographs in Undergraduate Mathematics and its Applications, Fall 1981.
2. "Geometry and the Pettis integral," Transactions of the American Mathematical Society 269 (1982), 535-548.
3. "Pettis integration," Proceedings of the American Mathematical Society 82 (1981), 81-86.
4. "Vector-valued functions as families of scalar-valued functions" (with J.J. Uhl, Jr.), Pacific Journal of Mathematics 95 (1981), 75-83.
5. "Algorithms and Images: Computer Graphics as an Introduction to Science", SIGCSE Bulletin 23, 1 (March , 1991), 82-86.
6. "Graphics: Where Computing meets the Liberal Arts" an invited lecture at the Logic, Loops and [COMPUTING] Literacy Faculty Development Seminar, Brooklyn College, May 13-14 1993.
7. "Concepts in the Classroom, Programming in the Lab: A report on a broad-based CS1 and CS2 with structured labs", SIGCSE Bulletin 26, 1 (March, 1994), 164-168.

JYL GENTZLER

Department of Philosophy
Box 2253
Amherst College
Amherst, MA 01002

Telephone: (413) 542-5806
Telefax: (413) 542-5837
Email: jgentzler@amherst.edu

EDUCATION:

Cornell University
Ph.D. (Philosophy), 1991
Dissertation: *Knowledge and Method in Plato's Early and Middle Dialogues*
M.A. (Philosophy), 1988
Bryn Mawr College
A.B. (Philosophy), *summa cum laude*, June 1985

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION: Ancient Philosophy, Ethics, Bioethics, Philosophy of Action

AREAS OF COMPETENCE: Epistemology, Philosophy of Mind

HONORS AND FELLOWSHIPS:

2003	Winner of the 2003 <i>The Philosophical Quarterly</i> Essay Prize
2002	Senior Sabbatical Fellowship, Amherst College
1998-99	Fellowship in Medical Ethics, Harvard Medical School
1992-93	Trustee Faculty Fellowship, Amherst College
1988-89	Martin M. McVoy, Jr., Trust Fellowship, Cornell University
1988	Summer Fellowship, Cornell University
1988	Susan Linn Sage Fellowship, Cornell University
1985	The Charles Schwartz Memorial Prize in Philosophy, Haverford College
1985	Departmental Honors in Philosophy, Haverford College
1984	NEH Younger Scholars' Grant

PRESENT POSITIONS:

2008-	William R. Kenan, Jr. Professor of Philosophy, Amherst College
2008-	Associate Director, The Writing Center at Amherst College

PREVIOUS POSITION:

2003-2008:	Professor of Philosophy, Amherst College
1996-2003	Associate Professor of Philosophy, Amherst College
1989-1996	Assistant Professor of Philosophy, Amherst College
1985-1987	Teaching Assistant, Cornell University

PUBLICATIONS:

(Many can be viewed at <https://www.amherst.edu/people/facstaff/jgentzler/publications>)

- Review of *Plato's Introduction of Forms* by R.M. Dancy. *Philosophy in Review* 27 (2007): 327-9.
- A variety of articles in Alexander George, ed. *What Would Socrates Do?* (Clarkson Potter, 2007)
[Published in the UK as *I am, Therefore I Think*, in Holland as *Wat Zou Socrates Zeggen?*, and in Germany as *Was ist das Gegenteil von einem Löwen?*]
- "How to Know the Good: The Moral Epistemology of Plato's *Republic*," *The Philosophical Review* 114 (2005): 469-96.
- "The Attractions and Delights of Goodness: Some Platonic Reflections on Internalism," *The Philosophical Quarterly* 54 (2004): 353-67. Winner of the 2003 *The Philosophical Quarterly* Essay Prize.
- "What is a Death with Dignity?" *Journal of Medicine and Philosophy* 28 (2003): 461-487.
- Review of *Plato's Predecessors: The Dramatisation of Reason* by Mary Margaret McCabe. *Mind* 112 (2003): 156-162.
- Review of *Cross-Examining Socrates* by John Beversluis. *The Philosophical Review* 110 (2001): 587-590.
- "What They are Reading," *Amherst* (Summer 2001); reprinted in the newsletter for the National Center for Women and Aging (Fall 2001).
- Review of *Euthanasia and Physician-Assisted Suicide: For and Against* by Gerald Dworkin, R.G. Frey, and Sissela Bok, and *Physician-Assisted Suicide: Expanding the Debate*, ed. by Margaret P. Battin, Rosamond Rhodes, and Anita Silvers, eds. *The Boston Review* 24 (April/May 1999).
- Method in Ancient Philosophy* (editor). Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1998.
- "Sophistry," *Prism* 10 (1996).
- "Forms, Individuals, and Individuation: Mary Margaret McCabe's *Plato's Individuals*." *Apeiron* 29 (1996): 195-213.
- Comments on Christopher Bobonich, "Plato's Theory of Goods in the *Laws*." *Proceedings of the Boston Area Colloquium in Ancient Philosophy* 11 (1995): 123-134.
- "How to Discriminate between Experts and Frauds: Some Problems for Socratic Peirastic." *The History of Philosophy Quarterly* 12 (1995): 227-246.
- "The Sophistic Cross-examination of Callicles in the *Gorgias*." *Ancient Philosophy* 15 (1995): 17-43.
- "Recollection and the 'Problem of the Elenchus'." *Proceedings of the Boston Area Colloquium in Ancient Philosophy* 10 (1994): 257-295.
- Review of *Philosopher-Kings* by C.D.C. Reeve. *The Philosophical Review* 101 (1992): 362-365.
- "'Sumpbônein' in Plato's *Phaedo*." *Phronesis* 36 (1991): 265-276.

DARA ROSSMAN REGAIGNON
Director of College Writing & Assistant Professor of English
14 December 2009

EDUCATION

Ph.D., English and American Literature, Brandeis University	2000
M.A., English and American Literature and Women's Studies, Brandeis University	1996
B.A. in English Literature, <i>summa cum laude</i> , Amherst College	1993

EMPLOYMENT

Assistant Professor of English and Director of College Writing, Pomona College	2005-present
Assistant Director for Faculty and Tutor Development, Princeton Writing Program, Princeton University	2004-2005

FELLOWSHIPS & GRANTS

Faculty Research Grant, Pomona College Title: "Writing Maternity: Mothers and Doctors in an Anxious Age" Principal Investigator \$3299	2008
Wig Grant for Teaching Innovation, Pomona College Course development grant for English 87, "Writing: Theories, Processes, Pedagogies" \$500	2008

SELECTED SCHOLARLY WORK

Publications

Writing Program Administration at Small Liberal Arts Colleges. With Jill Gladstein and Lisa Lebduska. In progress and under contract with Parlor Press.

"Consortia as Sites of Inquiry: Steps Toward a National Portrait of Writing Program Administration." With Jill Gladstein and Lisa Lebduska. Lead article, <i>WPA: Writing Program Administration</i> 32.3: 13-36.	2009
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"Traction: Transferring Analysis Across the Curriculum." Lead article, "From the Classroom." <i>Pedagogy</i> 9.1: 121-133.	2009
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"Toxic Maternity in <i>The Daisy Chain</i> : Infant-Doping at Mid-Century." <i>Other Mothers: Beyond the Maternal Ideal</i> . Ed. Claudia Klaver and Ellen Rosenman. Ohio State University Press. 125-144.	2008
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Rev. of <i>Women and Literacy: Local and Global Inquiries for a New Century</i> , edited by Beth Daniell and Peter Mortensen (New York: Lawrence Erlbaum, 2007), <i>WPA: Writing Program Administration</i> 32.1: 144-147.	2008
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- "Pemberley vs. the Purple Jar: Prudence, Pleasure, and Narrative Strategy." 2004
Women's Writing 11.3: 439-61.
- "Intimacy's Empire: Children, Servants, and Missionaries in Mary Martha Sherwood's 'Little Henry and his Bearer' (1814)." 2001
Children's Literature Association Quarterly 26.2: 84-95.
- "Instructive Sufficiency: Re-Reading the Governess through *Agnes Grey*." 2001
Victorian Literature and Culture 29.1: 85-108.
- Presentations**
- "How Writing is Done at Pomona College" in "The State of Writing Studies: How Writing is Done in U.S. Colleges and Universities." Conference on College Composition and Communication (CCCC), Louisville, KY. 2010
- Jill Gladstein, Lisa Lebduska, and Dara Rossman Regaignon. "The Varieties (and Vagaries) of Small Liberal Arts College Writing Program Administrative Positions" and "Navigating the Current Economic Challenges." Small Liberal Arts College-Writing Program Administrators (SLAC-WPA), Easton, PA. 2009
- Invited Participant. Haverford College Writing Program Symposium. Haverford, PA. (By invitation.) 2009
- "The Forms of Writing: English and Writing Studies." Panel of the Division for the Teaching of Writing, Modern Language Association (MLA), San Francisco, CA. 2008
- "Building a Culture of Writing." Amherst College, Amherst, MA. (By invitation.) 2008
- "What Difference Does It Make? A Small-Scale Study of Course-Based Peer Tutoring." Writing Research Across Borders, University of California, Santa Barbara. 2008

CONFERENCES ORGANIZED

- Jill Gladstein, Lisa Lebduska, and Dara Rossman Regaignon. Small Liberal Arts College Writing Program Administrators (inaugural meeting). Swarthmore, PA. 2008

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

- Vice-President, Southern California Writing Centers Association 2008-present
- Steering Committee, Small Liberal Arts College Writing Program Administrators 2007-present
- Participant, Western Association of Schools and Colleges Evaluation Team for the University of California, San Diego Re-accreditation 2007-present