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English Department
Webster University
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EDUCATION

- PhD in English**
August 1996
The Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio
Dissertation: Speaking for Nature: The Politics and Practice of Environmental Advocacy in American Literature and Culture
Committee: H. Lewis Ulman, Director; Marlene Longenecker; Barbara Rigney
- Graduate courses**
Fall 1989
Miami University, Oxford, Ohio
Master's in Technical and Scientific Communication Program
- MA in English**
Spring 1989
The Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio
Thesis: Ascending the Tower: Gender Roles and the Achievement of an Inhumanist Vision in Robinson Jeffers' "Roan Stallion," "Tamar," and "The Tower Beyond Tragedy"
Committee: Anthony Libby, Director; Sebastian Knowles
- BA in English**
Spring 1985
Miami University, Oxford, Ohio

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- Associate Professor**, Department of English, Webster University, Fall 1998-present.
Design and teach courses in American literature and culture, interdisciplinary humanities, and professional writing; specific courses include
- ENGL 2110 Perspectives: Western American Literature
Perspectives: Literature of Oppression and Resistance
Perspectives: Humans and Other Animals
 - ENGL 2210 Literature into Film: Frontiers and Contact Zones
Literature into Film: Bad Boys, Loners, and Cads
 - ENGL 3500 Contexts: Nature Writing in America
 - ENGL 4500 Literary Criticism
 - GNST 1200 Freshman Seminar: Dogs and What They Tell Us about Being Human
Freshman Seminar: American Dreams and Nightmares
 - GNST 1300 Technology, Science, and Society: Environmental Literacy
 - WRIT 2090 Business and Technical Writing (special section for science students)

- WRIT 2090 Writing in the Workplace (formerly Business and Technical Writing)
 - WRIT 4000 Topics in Professional Writing: Science Writing for Regular People
Topics in Professional Writing: Gender and Communication
Topics in Professional Writing: Writing for Nonprofit Organizations
Topics in Professional Writing: Writing on Nature and the Environment
 - WRIT 4100 Advanced Business and Technical Writing
 - WRIT 4400 Advanced Workshop in Writing as a Profession
- Also oversee the professional writing minor and certificate.

Full-time Instructor, Sewall Residential Academic Program, University of Colorado at Boulder, Fall 1996-Spring 1998.

Designed and taught seminar-style American studies and literature courses for students in the residential program. Courses included

- Themes in American Culture before 1865
- Themes in American Culture since 1865 (conventional and service-learning versions)
- Introduction to Women's Literature

Served on Ph.D. general exam and dissertation committees for the English Department.

Full-time Lecturer, Department of American Thought and Language, Michigan State University, Fall 1995-Spring 1996.

Designed and taught three sections per semester of "The Evolution of American Thought," a first-year writing course focusing on American historical, social, and cultural texts.

Teaching Associate, The Ohio State University Department of English, 1988-1989 and 1991-1995.

Designed and taught a variety of composition and literature courses:

- First-Year Composition (some sections in computer enhanced classroom)
- Honors First-Year Composition
- Literature-Based First-Year Composition
- Informative Writing
- The American Experience (intermediate writing course; computer-enhanced classroom)
- The American Experience as Reflected in Literature (intermediate writing course)
- American Literature from 1865 through the Present
- British Literature from the Romantic Period to the Present
- Introduction to Poetry
- Introduction to Fiction (computer-enhanced classroom)

Science Writer/Editor, Miami University Department of Zoology, 1990 and Summer 1991.

Wrote, edited and conducted research for college-level environmental science textbook.

PUBLICATIONS

Books and Journal Issues:

Co-editor with Karen Seago (also coauthored introduction). Special issue of *Critical Comparative Studies*, the publication of the British Comparative Literature Association, on "Literary Beasts." Forthcoming.

Co-editor with Kathleen R. Wallace (also co-authored introduction). *Beyond Nature Writing: Expanding the Boundaries of Ecocriticism*. Charlottesville: University Press of Virginia, June 2001. (See <http://www.upress.virginia.edu/books/armbrusterwallace.html>.)

Co-author with Donald G. Kaufman. *Finding Our Niche: The Human Role in Healing the Earth*. New York: HarperCollins, 1993. 224 pp.

Articles and Book Chapters:

"Telling Stories about History and Nature: The Implications of Graham Swift's *Waterland*." In progress.

"What There Was Before Language': Animals and the Challenges of Being Human in the Novels of Toni Morrison." Forthcoming in a special issue of *Critical Comparative Studies* on "Literary Beasts."

"'Good Dog': The Stories We Tell about Our Canine Companions and What They Mean for Humans and Other Animals." *Papers in Language and Literature* 38 (Fall 2002): 351-376.

"Can a Book Protect a Valley?: Rick Bass and the Dilemmas of Literary Environmental Advocacy." *The Literary Art and Activism of Rick Bass*. Ed. O. Alan Weltzien. Salt Lake City: University of Utah Press, September, 2001. 197-222.

Co-author with Kathleen R. Wallace. "The Novels of Toni Morrison: 'Wild Wilderness Where There Was None.'" *Beyond Nature Writing: Expanding the Boundaries of Ecocriticism*. Ed. Karla Armbruster and Kathleen R. Wallace. Charlottesville: University Press of Virginia, June 2001. 211-230.

"A Poststructuralist Approach to Ecocriticism." *The Green Studies Reader: From Romanticism to Ecocriticism*. Ed. Laurence Coupe. London and New York: Routledge, 2000: 198-203.

"Bringing Nature Writing Home: Josephine Johnson's *Inland Island* as Bioregional Narrative." *Reading Under the Sign of Nature*. Ed. Hank Harrington and John Tallmadge. Salt Lake City: University of Utah Press. 2000: 3-23.

"Speaking for Nature." *Literature of Nature: An International Sourcebook*. Ed. Patrick D. Murphy. Chicago and London: Fitzroy Dearborn Publishing, 1998. 429-433.

"Buffalo Gals, Won't You Come Out Tonight?": A Call for Boundary-Crossing in Ecofeminist Literary Criticism." *Ecofeminist Literary Criticism: Theory, Interpretation, Pedagogy*. Ed. Patrick D. Murphy and Greta Gaard. Urbana, IL: University of Illinois Press, 1998. 97-122.

"Creating the World We Must Save: The Paradox of Television Nature Programs." *Writing the Environment*. Ed. Richard Kerridge and Neil Sammels. London: Zed Books, 1998. 218-238.

"Surely, God, These Are My Kin': The Dynamics of Identity and Advocacy in the Life and Works of Dian Fossey." *Animal Acts: Configuring the Human in Western History*. Ed. Jennifer Ham and Matthew Senior. New York: Routledge Press, 1997. 209-229.

"Blurring the Boundaries in Ursula Le Guin's 'Buffalo Gals Won't You Come Out Tonight': A Poststructuralist Approach to Ecofeminist Criticism." *Interdisciplinary Studies in Literature and Environment*. Special issue on ecofeminist literary criticism. Ed. Greta Gaard. Summer 1996. 17-46.

"Rewriting a Genealogy with the Earth: Women and Nature in the Works of Terry Tempest Williams." *Southwestern American Literature*. Special issue on nature writing. Ed. Scott Slovic. Fall 1995. 209-20.

Case studies in *Biosphere 2000: Protecting Our Global Environment*, by Donald G. Kaufman and Cecilia M. Franz (New York: HarperCollins, 1993): "Prairie Restoration at Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory" (118-20), "Hunger in the United States" (186-89), and "The Statue of Liberty" (544-46).

Reviews:

Review of Robert L. Thayer, Jr.'s *LifePlace: Bioregional Thought and Practice* and David Sobel's *Place-Based Education: Connecting Classrooms and Communities*. Forthcoming in *ISLE: Interdisciplinary Studies in Literature and Environment*.

Review of Matthew Scully's *Dominion: The Power of Man, the Suffering of Animals, and the Call to Mercy*. *ISLE: Interdisciplinary Studies in Literature and Environment*. Winter 2004: 235-236.

Review of *The Nature of Cities: Ecocriticism and Urban Environments* (ed. Michael Bennett and David W. Teague). *ISLE: Interdisciplinary Studies in Literature and Environment*. Winter 2001: 222-223

Review of *Ecofeminist Natures: Race, Gender, Feminist Theory and Political Action* (Noël Sturgeon), *Ecofeminism: Women, Culture, Nature* (ed. Karen J. Warren), and *Feminism and Ecology* (Mary Mellor). *National Women's Studies Association Journal*. Spring 2000: 210-216.

Review of Noël Sturgeon's *Ecofeminist Natures: Race, Gender, Feminist Theory and Political Action*. *ISLE: Interdisciplinary Studies in Literature and Environment*. Winter 1999: 150-152.

CONFERENCE PAPERS AND PRESENTATIONS

“What There Was Before Language”: Animals and the Challenges of Being Human in the Novels of Toni Morrison. Also participated in roundtable which opened the conference. (Literary Beasts in Today’s Writing: An Interdisciplinary Conference, London, England, September 16-18, 2004)

“The Ethics of Environmental Advocacy in the Classroom.” Association for the Study of Literature and the Environment Special Interest Group session. Also arranged and chaired session. (Conference on College Composition and Communication, San Antonio, TX, March 24-27, 2004)

“Dogs Who Bite.” (Second Biannual Conference of Nature in Legend and Story, Canton, OH, August 13-14, 2003)

“The Dog Who Bites People.” (Association for the Study of Literature and Environment Conference, Boston, MA, June 3-7, 2003)

“Practicing Ecocomposition,” Association for the Study of Literature and the Environment Special Interest Group session. (Conference on College Composition and Communication, New York, NY, March 19-22, 2003)

"Environmental Action through Language." (Conference on College Composition and Communication, Chicago, IL, March 20-23, 2002)

With four Webster students. "Reading Native American Literature: A Class Responds to Leslie Marmon Silko’s 'Yellow Woman' and Thomas King’s *Green Grass Running Water*" (Western Literature Association Meeting, Omaha, NE, October 17-20, 2001)

"Speaking for Nature: Representing Animal Consciousness in Recent Fiction" (Association for the Study of Literature and Environment Conference, Flagstaff, AZ, June 19-23, 2001)

With Kathleen R. Wallace. "Toni Morrison and Contemporary Environmental Attitudes toward Wildness." (First International Conference of the Society for the Study of American Women Writers, San Antonio, TX, February 14-18, 2001)

"Gazing in the Eyes of Others: Humans and Animals in Twentieth-Century American Nonfiction" (Western Literature Association Meeting, Norman, OK, October 25-28, 2000)

"Using Environmental Issues to Re-Imagine Professional Writing as Public Discourse." (Conference on College Composition and Communication, Minneapolis, MN, April 12-15, 2000)

"The Not-So-Hidden Life of Dogs: What Can It Tell Us about Human Relationships to Nature?" (North American Interdisciplinary Conference on Environment and Community, Reno, NV, February 10-12, 2000)

"Environmental Thought and Postmodernism: An Unnecessary Opposition." (Modern Language Association Convention, Chicago, IL, December 27-30, 1999)

Roundtable presentation on "Tips for the Green Job Candidate." Also, with Kathleen R. Wallace, roundtable presentation on "The Novels of Toni Morrison: 'Wild Wilderness Where There Was None.'" (Association for the Study of Literature and Environment Conference, Kalamazoo, MI, June 2-5, 1999)

"Can a Book Save a Valley?: The Case of Rick Bass." (Nature and Environmental Writing: Theory, Engagement, and Practice, an American Literature Association-Sponsored Symposium, Puerto Vallarta, Mexico, December 3-6, 1998)

"Desire and Landscape: Charting the Continuum between Ecopornography and Erotics of Place." (Midwest Modern Language Association Conference, St. Louis, MO, November 5-7, 1998)

With Kathleen R. Wallace. "Valuing Wildness in the Gardens of Toni Morrison's *Paradise*: One All-Black Town's Journey from Westward Migration to Salvation." (Western Literature Association Meeting, Banff, Alberta, October 14-17, 1998)

"Art and Environmental Advocacy: The Case of Rick Bass." (North American Interdisciplinary Conference on Environment and Community, Reno, NV, February 19-21, 1998)

"Seeking Refuge, Finding Home: Concepts of Place and Community in Women's Bioregional Narratives." (Modern Language Association Convention, Toronto, Ontario, December 27-30, 1997)

"Saving the Earth: Are Words Enough?" (Western Literature Association Meeting, Albuquerque, NM, October 15-18, 1997)

"Trespassing on the Inland Island: Thoughts on Bioregional Writing and Practice." (Association for the Study of Literature and Environment Conference, Missoula, MT, July 17-19, 1997)

"Paradox and Bedrock': Language and the Reality of Nature in the Nonfiction of Edward Abbey." (Western Literature Association Meeting, Lincoln, NE, October 2-5, 1996)

With H. Lewis Ulman. "'The Gates that Swing Both Ways': Beyond Place and Genre in Josephine Johnson's *Inland Island*" (The Society for the Study of Midwestern Literature Conference, East Lansing, MI, May 23-25, 1996.)

"What Ever Happened to the Gorillas in the Mist?: Identity, Advocacy, and the Legacy of Dian Fossey." (Midwest Women's Studies Conference — "A Woman's Place: Women in Science, Engineering, and the Humanities," Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology, Terre Haute, IN, April 19-20, 1996)

With H. Lewis Ulman. "'The Heart's Fox Vanished Forever': Destabilizing Visions of Nature and Gender in Josephine Johnson's *Inland Island*." (Midwest Modern Language Association Conference, St. Louis, MO, November 2-4, 1995)

"Speaking for Nature: The Paradox of Television Nature Documentaries." (Association for the Study of Literature and Environment Conference, Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO, June 9-11, 1995)

"Rewriting a Genealogy with the Earth: Women's Subjectivity and Nature in Terry Tempest Williams' *Refuge: An Unnatural History of Family and Place*." (THE THIRD WAVE: "Women and Our Environments" feminist symposium, Wilson College, Chambersburg, PA, February 25-26, 1995)

"Blurring the Boundaries in *Gorillas in the Mist*: The Environmental and Ethical Potential of Anthropomorphism and Zoomorphism." (Modern Language Association Convention, San Diego, CA, December 27-30, 1994)

"Coyote Crosses Over: Complicating the Nature/Culture Dualism in Ursula Le Guin's 'Buffalo Gals Won't You Come Out Tonight.'" (Western Literature Association Meeting, Salt Lake City, UT, October 6-9, 1994)

"'A Woman Rewriting [Her] Genealogy': Subjectivity as Positionality in Terry Tempest Williams' *Refuge: An Unnatural History of Family and Place*." (Western Literature Association Meeting, Wichita, KS, October 7-9, 1993)

"Difference, Authority, and Learning in a Collaborative Writing Team." (Conference on College Composition and Communication, San Diego, CA, March 31-April 3, 1993)

OTHER PRESENTATIONS AND PROGRAMS

Participated as humanities scholar in "Nature in Film and Literature," a series of public programs associated with the Jackson Hole Wildlife Film Festival. July and September, 2003. Funded in part by a grant from the Wyoming Humanities Council.

Led business writing skills seminars for employees of General American Life Insurance Company, September 1999-December 2000.

Lead professional development workshops for other Webster University faculty on integrating writing into content courses and freshman seminars, May 1999-present.

Gave invited lecture on Edward Abbey's *Desert Solitaire: A Season in the Wilderness* at the Boulder Public Library's Annual Book Discussion Day, Boulder, Colorado, April 4, 1998.

Led small group discussion on Terry Tempest Williams' *Refuge: An Unnatural History of Family and Place* at the Boulder Public Library's Annual Book Discussion Day, Boulder, Colorado, April 5, 1997.

AWARDS AND HONORS

Teaching Transformations Grant, Webster University, Fall 2004.

Faculty Development Grant to develop service-learning course, University of Colorado, Spring 1997.

Ohio State University College of Humanities Alumni Society Outstanding Student Award, 1995.
Nominated by the English Department for the Ohio State University Presidential Fellowship, Fall 1993.

Graduate Summer Research Fellowship, Ohio State University Dept. of English, 1993.

Estrich Award for Best Seminar Paper, Ohio State University Dept. of English, 1992.

University Fellowship, Ohio State University, 1987-88.

Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society, 1985-present.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Association for the Study of Literature and Environment

International Society for Anthrozoology

Midwestern Modern Language Association

National Council of Teachers of English

Orion Society

Western Literature Association

ACADEMIC SERVICE

To the Professional Community

- Newsletter editor, Association for the Study of Literature and Environment, Fall 2003-present.
- Program Planning Committee, Fifth and Sixth Biennial Conferences of the Association for the Study of Literature and Environment, 2003 and 2005.
- Peer Reviewer, *Common Ground* (an interdisciplinary environmental studies journal), 2000-present.
- Elected Representative, Executive Council, Association for the Study of Literature and Environment, 1999-2001.
- Reviewer of proposals and manuscripts for university presses including Oxford, Minnesota, Arizona, Utah, Nevada, Nebraska, and Chicago, 1998-present.
- Board of Advisors, Place and Community Studies Institute, 1996-present.
- Contributing Editor, *Association for the Study of Literature and Environment Bibliography 1995* (Ed. Zita Ingham, Coos Bay, OR: Southwestern Oregon Community College, 1996)

To Webster University

- Member, General Studies Committee, Spring 2004-present (replacement Spring 2004).
- Member, Undergraduate Writing Committee, Spring 2004-present (Acting Chair Spring 2004).
- * Member, Committee to Improve Student Writing, Fall 2003-present.
- Chair, Environmental Studies Committee (includes coordinating E.S. minor), Fall 2001-

Spring 2004.

- Member, Publications Board, Spring and Fall 2001 (Acting Chair in Fall 2001).
- At-large Representative, Faculty Senate, Fall 2000-Spring 2002.
- Member, Advisory Board, Center for Practical and Interdisciplinary Ethics, 2000-present.
- Member, Writing Board, 1998-present.
- Member, Core Study Group, Ethics across the Curriculum Project, 1998-1999.

PUBLIC SERVICE

Volunteer, Green Party Campaign, St. Louis, MO, 2000

Foster Caregiver, Stray Rescue, St. Louis, MO, 1998-present

Volunteer, Greenwood Wildlife Rehabilitation Sanctuary, Longmont, CO, 1997-1998

Volunteer, Ohio Wildlife Center, Columbus, Ohio, 1993-1995