Martha J. Cutter, Professor of English and Africana Studies

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EDUCATION

- PhD 1991, English and American Studies, Brown University (with highest honors)
  Dissertation, "Revisionary Voices: Language and Identity in American Women's Writing."
- MA 1987, English and American Studies, Brown University (with highest honors)
- BA 1984, Harvard University, Magna Cum Laude

PROFESSIONAL HISTORY

- The University of Connecticut, Professor of English and Africana Studies, 2012-Present
- Editor, *MELUS: Journal of the Society for the Study of Multiethnic Literature of the US*, 2006-2014
- University of Connecticut, Interim Director, Institute for African American Studies, 2011-2012.
- University of Connecticut, Associate Professor of English and African American Studies, 2006-2012
- Editor-in-Chief, *Legacy: A Journal of American Women Writers*, 2004-2006
- Kent State University, Associate Professor of English, 1999-2006
- Director of Graduate Studies, Kent State University, 2002-2006
- Kent State University, Assistant Professor of English, 1994-1999
- Editor, *Legacy: A Journal of American Women Writers*, 2002-2006
- University of Oregon, Visiting Assistant Professor of English, 1993-1994
- University of Connecticut, Visiting Assistant Professor of English, 1992-1993
- Swarthmore College, Visiting Assistant Professor of English, 1991-1992

AWARDS AND GRANTS

- NEH (National Endowment for the Humanities) Academic Year Fellowship for "Slavery as Spectacle: The Lives and Afterlives of Henry Box Brown, the Slave who Mailed Himself to Freedom" (book project) (September 2019-September 2020).
- Africana Studies Institute Faculty Research Fund Grant, the University of Connecticut, $2500, March 2019
- REP (Research Excellent Program) Grant, the University of Connecticut, $10,000, May 10, 2018.
- CLAS Book Support Fund, University of Connecticut Humanities Institute (fall 2016, fall 2017, $4000)
- American Antiquarian Society, Worcester, MA Summer Fellowship (2017).
- Fund for Interdisciplinary Research (FIRE), University of Connecticut (summer 2016, $2500)
- Scholarship Facilitation Fund, University of Connecticut (summer 2015, spring 2016, $2000)
- Felberbaum Family Fund Grant, University of Connecticut (summer 2015, $1500).
- University of Connecticut Humanities Institute Research Fellowship, 2014-2015.
- Provost's Fellowship for Research, University of Connecticut, spring 2009.
- CELJ (Council of Editors of Learned Journals) Award for Best Journal in North American Studies, *MELUS*, 2010.
- Winner, 2001 Nancy Dasher Award from the College English Association for the best book in Literary Theory/Criticism published in 1998, 1999, or 2000 for *Unruly Tongue: Language and Identity in American Women's Writing, 1850-1930*.

PUBLICATIONS: BOOKS

- *When Black Lives Really Do Matter: Repairing and Rewriting Women's Bodies through Alternative Healing Rituals in Toni Morrison's Fiction* (book in progress)
- *The Many Resurrections of Henry Box Brown* (forthcoming, University of Pennsylvania Press, August 2022). Nominated for the NEMLA (Northeast MLA) book prize, 2021-2022.
- *Redrawing the Historical Past: History, Memory, and Multi-Ethnic Graphic Novels.* Ed. Martha J. Cutter and Cathy J. Schlund-Vials (University of Georgia Press 2018).
- *The Illustrated Slave: Empathy, Graphic Narrative, and the Visual Culture of the Transatlantic Abolition Movement, 1800-1852* (University of Georgia Press, August 2017). Nominated for the Gilder Lehrman Center's Frederick Douglass Book Prize, 2018.
- *Lost and Found in Translation: Contemporary Ethnic American Writing and the Politics of Language Diversity* (Durham: University of North Carolina Press, 2005).
- *Unruly Tongue: Language and Identity in American Women's Writing, 1850-1930* (Jackson: University Press of Mississippi, 1999). Winner, 2001 Nancy Dasher Award from the College English Association.

PUBLICATIONS: BOOK CHAPTERS AND ARTICLES

- "Neo-Passing in the Twentieth and Twenty-first Century and Multi-Ethnic Literature." *A Companion to Multi-Ethnic Literature of the US*. Ed. Gary Totten. New York: Wiley-Blackwell. Forthcoming 2022.
- "Slavery, Freedom, and Resistance in the Abolition Movement and the US Visual Imagination." *African American Activism and Political Engagement: An Encyclopedia of Empowerment.* Ed. Angela Jones. Santa Barbara: ABC-CLIO. Forthcoming 2022.
- **"**Picturing Race: African Americans in US Visual Culture Before the Civil War." *Race in American Literature and Culture*. Ed. John Ernest. Oxford: Oxford University Press, forthcoming May 2022.
- "When Black Lives Really Do Matter: Subverting Medical Apartheid through African-Diasporic Healing Rituals in Toni Morrison's Fiction." Forthcoming, *MELUS* (Multi-Ethnic Literature of the United States), November 2021.
- "The Fugitive Gazes Back: The Photographic Performance Work of Frederick Douglass and Sojourner Truth." *InMedia: The French Journal of Media Studies* 8.2 (2020), first published online Oct. 27, 2021; https://journals.openedition.org/inmedia/2463.
- "Visual Insubordination within Early African American Portraiture and Illustrated Books." *African American Literature in Transition, 1800-1830*. Ed. Jasmine Cobb. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2021. 316-342.
- "Performing Fugitivity: Henry Box Brown on the Nineteenth-Century British Stage." *Slavery & Abolition*, November 23, 2020, 1–21. https://doi.org/10.1080/0144039X.2020.1843969.
- "I Now Pronounce You Man and *White*: Racial Passing and Gender in Charles Chesnutt's Fiction," *American Literary Realism* 52.3 (2020): 189-210. Short listed for the 2021 David D. Anderson Award for Outstanding Essay in Midwestern Literary Studies.
- "Between Word and Image: The Use of Humor, Satire, and Caricature in Early Abolitionist Political Cartoons." *Race and Vision in the Nineteenth-Century United States*. Ed. Shirley Samuels**.** Rowman and Littlefield, 2019. 105-122.
- "Why Passing is (Still) Not Passé after 250 Years: Sources from the Past and Present." *Neo-Passing: Performing Identity after Jim Crow*. Ed. Mollie Godfrey and Vershawn Young. University of Illinois Press, 2018. 49-67.
- "Re-Visioning Race: Transformations of the Passing Narrative in Mat Johnson and Warren

Pleece's Graphic Novel *Incognegro.*" *Redrawing the Historical Past: History, Memory, and Multi-Ethnic Graphic Novels*. Ed. Martha J. Cutter and Cathy J. Schlund-Vials. University of Georgia Press, 2018. 1-17.

- "Translating Across the Borders: Sui Sin Far and Other Interethnic Subjects." *Crossing Borders: Essays on Literature, Culture and Society*. Ed. Tapan K. Basu and Tasneem Shahnaaz. Farleigh Dickinson University Press, 2017. 31-45.
- "The Child's Illustrated Talking Book: Abigail Mott's Abridgment of Olaudah Equiano's *Interesting Narrative* for African American Children." *Who Writes for Black Children? African American Children's Literature Before 1900.* Ed. Katharine Capshaw and Anna Mae Duane. University of Minnesota Press, 2017. 117-144.
- "Black Like Malcolm: Grace Halsell's Rewriting of *Black Like Me* (1961) in *Soul Sister* (1969)." *Criticism* 58.1 (2017): 35-58.
- "Nella Larsen's *Passing* and the Literary and Legal Context of the Passing Narrative." *Approaches to Teaching Nella Larsen's Passing*. New York: Modern Language Association, 2016. 24-32 (lead essay).
- "'As White as Most White Women': Racial Passing in Advertisements for Runaway Slaves and the Origins of a Multivalent Term." *American Studies* 54.4 (2016): 73-97.
- "Will the Real Henry 'Box' Brown Please Stand Up?" *Common-place* 60.1 (Fall 2015). commonplace.online/article/will-the-real-henry-box-brown-please-stand-up/.
- "Multi-Ethnic 'Literature' of the 'United States': Thinking Beyond the Borders." *MELUS* 40.1 (2015): 13-23.
- "Revising Torture: Moses Roper and the Iconography of the Slave's Body in the Transatlantic Abolition Movement." *ESQ: A Journal of the American Renaissance* 60.3 (2014): 371-411.
- "Skinship: Dialectical Passing Narratives in Hannah Crafts's *The Bondswoman's Narrative.*" *American Literary Realism* 46.2 (2013): 116-36.
- "The Novel in a Changing America: Multiculturalism and Other Issues (1970-Present)." *Blackwell Companion to the American Novel*. Ed. Alfred Bendixen. New York: Blackwell, 2012. 109-26.
- "Malinche's Legacy: Translation, Betrayal, and Interlingualism in Chicano/a Literature." *Arizona Quarterly* 66.1 (2010): 1-33.
- "What is a Scholarly Journal? Identity Issues in our Digital Age: Disaggregation Disaggravation." *Journal of Scholarly Publishing* 42.1 (2010): 67-70.
- "Charlotte Perkins Gilman and the Feminist Tradition of the American Short Story." *A Companion to the American Short Story*. Ed. Alfred Bendixen and Jim Nagel. New York: Blackwell, 2010. 105-17.
- "An Intricate Act of Passing: Strategies of Racial and Textual Subversion in Charles Chesnutt's 'The Passing of Grandison.'" *CEA Critic* 70.2 (2008): 20-30. Rpt. in *Passing in the Works of Charles Chesnutt*. Jackson: University Press of Mississippi, 2010. 39-50. Rpt. in *Short Story Criticism* Volume 139. New York: Cengage, 2010. 61-69.
- "Sui Sin Far's Letters to Charles Lummis: Contextualizing Publication Practices for the Asian American Subject at the Turn of the Century." *American Literary Realism* 38.3 (2006): 259-275.
- "Sex, Love, Revenge, and Murder in 'Away Down in Jamaica': A Lost Story by Sui Sin Far (Edith Eaton)." *Legacy* 21.1 (2004): 85-89.
- "Engendering American Fictions." Co-authored with Caroline Levander. *A Companion to American Fiction, 1780-1865*. Ed. Shirley Samuels. New York: Blackwell, 2004. 27-37.
- "Empire and the Mind of the Child: Sui Sin Far's 'Tales of Chinese Children.'" *MELUS* 27.2 (2002): 31-48.
- "Smuggling Across the Borders of Race, Gender and Sexuality: Sui Sin Far's *Mrs. Spring Fragrance*." *Essays on Mixed-Race Literature*. Ed. Jonathan Brennan. Stanford University Press, 2002. 137-64.

- "The Writer as Doctor: New Models of Medical Discourse in Charlotte Perkins Gilman's Later Fiction." *Literature and Medicine* 20.2 (2001): 151-82.
- "Philomela Speaks: Alice Walker's Re-Visioning of Rape Archetypes in *The Color Purple.*" *MELUS* 25.3-4 (2000): 161-80.
- "The Story Must Go On and On: The Fantastic, Narration, and Intertextuality in Toni Morrison's *Beloved* and *Jazz*." *African American Review* 34.1 (2000): 61-75.
- "Of Metatexts, Metalanguages, and Possible Worlds: The Transformative Power of Metanarrative in C.P. Gilman's Later Short Fiction." *American Literary Realism* 31 (1998): 41-59. Reprinted in *Charlotte Perkins Gilman*, Ashgate International Library of Essays in Classical Sociology Series. Ed. Patricia Lengermann and Gillian Niebrugge-Brantley, American University, 2013.
- "Becoming a Desiring Subject: Alternative Aesthetic 'Bodies' in African American Women's Fiction." *Proceedings of the National Association of African American Studies*. Selected and ed. Lemuel Berry. Ann Arbor: UMI, 1997. 261-78.
- "An Impossible Necessity: Translation and the Recreation of Linguistic and Cultural Identities in Contemporary Chinese American Literature." *Criticism* 39 (1997): 581-612.
- "Sliding Significations: 'Passing' as a Narrative and Textual Strategy in Nella Larsen's Fiction." *Passing and the Fictions of Identity*. Ed. Elaine K. Ginsberg. Duke University Press, 1996. 75-100.
- "Dismantling 'The Master's House': Critical Literacy in Harriet Jacobs's *Incidents in the Life of A Slave Girl*." *Callaloo* 19.1 (1996): 209-25.
- "If It's Monday This Must Be Melville: A Canon, Anti-Canon Approach to Revising the American Literature Survey Course." *The Canon in the Classroom: The Pedagogical Implications of Canon Revision in American Literature*. Ed. John Alberti. Garland, 1995. 119-51.
- "Zitkala-Sa's Autobiographical Writings: the Problems of a Canonical Search for Language and Identity in Native American Writing." *MELUS* 19.1 (1994): 31-44.
- "Losing the Battle but Winning the War: Women's Relationship to Discourse in Kate Chopin's Short Fiction." *Legacy* 11.1 (1994): 7-36.
- "Beyond Stereotypes: Mary Wilkins Freeman's Radical Critique of Nineteenth-Century Cults of Femininity." *Women's Studies* 21 (1992): 383-95.
- "Frontiers of Language: Engendering Discourse in 'The Revolt of Mother.'" *American Literature* 63.2 (1991): 279-91. Rpt. in *The Art of the Short Story*. Ed. Wendy Martin. New York: Houghton Mifflin, 2005.
- "Mary E. Wilkins Freeman's Two New England Nuns." *Colby Quarterly* 26.4 (1990): 213-25. Reprinted in *Mary Wilkins Freeman: A Study of the Short Fiction*. Ed. Mary Reichardt. London: Prentice Hall, 1997. 179-95.

PUBLICATIONS: BOOK REVIEWS, ENCYCLOPEDIA ENTRIES, EDITORIAL COLUMNS (Selected List)

- Review of *Selling Antislavery: Abolition and Mass Media in Antebellum America.* Teresa Goddu. U. of Pennsylvania Press, 2020. *Register of the Kentucky Historical Society.* (forthcoming summer 2022).
- Review of *Visualizing Equality: African American Rights and Visual Culture in the Nineteenth Centur**y*****.** Aston Gonzalez. UNC Press, 2020. *Journal of the Early Republic* 41.2 (summer 2021): 343-346.
- Review of *Wayward Lives, Beautiful Experiments: Intimate Histories of Social Upheaval.* Saidiya Hartman. Norton, 2019. *MELUS* 46.1 (Spring 2021).
- Review of *Pictures and Power: Imaging and Imagining Frederic Douglass, 1818-2018*, edited by Celeste-Marie Bernier and Bill Lawson, Liverpool: Liverpool University Press, 2017. *Journal of American Studies* 53.4 (2019): 1063-1065.
- Review of *Artistic Liberties: American Literary Realism and Graphic Illustration, 1880-1905*, by Adam Sonstegard, Univ. of Alabama Press, 2014 and *Immersive Words: Mass Media, Visuality, and American Literature, 1839–1893*, by Shelly Jarenski, Tuscaloosa: Univ. of

Alabama Press, 2015 *American Literature* 90.4 (2018): 863–866.

- Review of *Black For a Day: White Fantasies of Race and Empathy* by Alisha Gaines, University of North Carolina Press, 2017. *Journal of Southern History* 84.3 (2018): 787-89.
- Review of *Between the Novel and the News: The Emergence of Women's Writing* by Sari Edelstein. *Edith Wharton Review* 32.1-2 (2016): 101-05.
- Review of *Picture Freedom: Remaking Black Visuality in the Early Nineteenth Century* by Jasmine Nichole Cobb, *MELUS* 41.2 (2016).
- Review of *A Chosen Exile: A History of Racial Passing in American Life* by Allyson Hobbs, *African American Review* 48.3 (2015) 381-83.
- Review of *Emergent U.S. Literatures: From Multiculturalism to Cosmopolitanism in the Late Twentieth Century* by Cyrus R.K. Patell. *MELUS* 40.2 (2015): 202-04.
- "Editor's Introduction: Thick Contexts for the Study of Multi-Ethnic Literary Texts." *MELUS* 39.3 (Fall 2014): 1-7.
- "Editor's Introduction: Rescripting Ethnic Bodies and Subjectivities." *MELUS* 39.1 (Spring 2014): 1-6.
- "Editor's Introduction: New Registers for the Study of Blackness." *MELUS* 38.4 (Winter 2013): 1-8.
- "Editor's Introduction: Space, Land, and the Global Environment of Ethnicity." *MELUS* 38.3 (Fall 2013): 1-6.
- "Editor's Introduction: Media(s) and the Mediation of Ethnic Identity." *MELUS* 37.4 (Winter 2012): 5-9.
- "Editor's Introduction: The Haunting and the Haunted." *MELUS* 37.3 (Fall 2012): 5-12.
- "Editor's Introduction: Reading, Writing, and Recognition." *MELUS* 37.1 (Spring 2011): 5-13.
- "Editor's Introduction: White and Not-Quite-White." *MELUS* 36.3 (Fall 2011): 5-12.
- "Editor's Introduction: Ethnic Storytelling." *MELUS* 36.1 (Spring 2011): 5-12.
- "Editor's Introduction: Crime, Punishment, and Redemption." *MELUS* 35.3 (Fall 2010): 5-11.
- "Editor's Introduction: Transgressing the Borders of 'America.'" *MELUS* 35.1 (Spring 2010): 5 12.
- "Editor's Introduction: Translation and Alternative Literacies." *MELUS* 34.4 (Winter 2009): 5-13.
- "Editor's Introduction: Racial Desire(s)." *MELUS* 34.3 (Fall 2009): 5-13.
- "Editor's Introduction: Witnessing, Testifying, and History." *MELUS* 34.1 (Spring 2009): 5-11.
- "Editor's Introduction: Multicultural and Multilingual Aesthetics of Resistance." *MELUS* 33.3 (Summer 2008): 5-9.
- "Notes from the Editor: Race, Space, and 'National' Boundaries." *MELUS* 33.1 (Spring 2008): 5-11.
- "Notes from the Editor: Thresholds, Secrets, and Knowledge." *MELUS* 32.2 (Summer 2007): 1-5.
- "Mrs. Spring Fragrance." *American History through Literature, 1870-1920*. Ed. Tom Quirk and Gary Scharnhorst. Detroit: Charles Scribner's Sons, 2006. 709-12.
- Review of *Switching Languages: Translingual Writers Reflect on Their Craft*. Ed. Steven G. Kellman. *College Literature* 32.2 (2005): 199-201.
- Review of *Rereading the Harlem Renaissance: Race, Class, and Gender in the Fiction of Jessie Fauset, Zora Neale Hurston, and Dorothy West*, by Sharon Jones. *African American Review* 37.4 (2003): 656-57.
- "Mei-Mei Berssenbrugge." *Asian-American Playwrights: A Bio-Bibliographical Critical Sourcebook*." Ed. Miles X. Liu. Greenwood Press, 2002. 14-17.
- Review of *Quiet As It's Kept: Shame, Trauma, and Race in the Novels of Toni Morrison,* by J. Brooks Bouson. *African American Review* 35.4 (2001): 672-73.
- "Canon" and "Language." *Encyclopedia of Feminist Literary Theory*. Ed. Beth Kowaleski-Wallace. New York: Garland, 1997: 63-65 and 229-30.

- "Writers' Lives Reflect Racism's Legacy," review of *Living Our Stories, Telling Our Truths: Autobiography and the Making of the African-American Intellectual Tradition*, by V.P. Franklin. *The Plain Dealer* 2 April 1995: 11-J.
- "Fragmentation and Unification, Myth and Metaphor," review of *Mythmaking and Metaphor in Black Women's Fiction*, by Jaqueline de Weever and *Alice Walker*, by Donna Winchell. *African American Review* 28.4 (1994): 665-69.
- Review of *A Web of Relationship: Women in the Short Fiction of Mary Wilkins Freeman*, by Mary Reichardt and *The Uncollected Stories of Mary Wilkins Freeman.* Ed. Mary Reichardt. *Legacy* 10.2 (1993): 151-53.

INTERVIEWS/PRESS (Selected List)

- Live Radio Interview, Public Radio International, Oct. 9, 2021, on Ellen Craft. https://www.pri.org/file/2021-10-08/london-home-us-abolitionists-receives-blue-plaque.
- Live Radio Interview, January 22, 2020, with Julie Rose. "Boxed Slave." *Top of the Mind.* BYU Radio. http://www.byuradio.org/episode/bd4d4892-6892-4728-b14e-ecb7e4a7f75b/top-of-mind-with-julie-rose-citizens-united-boxed-slave-living-concrete?playhead=2375&autoplay=true
- Interviewed in "Slavery cost him his family. That's when Henry 'Box' Brown mailed himself to freedom," by Sydney Trent (one of two scholars), *The Washington Post*, Dec 30, 2019, https://www.washingtonpost.com/history/2019/12/28/slavery-cost-him-his-family-thats-when-henry-box-brown-mailed-himself-freedom/
- UCONN Today article: "The Slave who Mailed Himself to Freedom," February 7, 2019
- https://today.uconn.edu/2019/02/slave-mailed-freedom/
- Television Interview, January 25, 2019, with Dottie Durst. *Education Matters.* https://communityaccesstv.viebit.com/player.php?hash=CLuoWlAGUEhi.

INVITED LECTURES

- Invited Speaker, "Slavery in US Visual Culture and History," Stonington Historical Society, Stonington, CT, Oct. 12, 2019.
- Invited Speaker, Langston Hughes Inaugural Lecture, "Crossing Borders: The Many Lives of Henry Box Brown," Ohio University, Athens, OH, November 27, 2018, https://livestream.com/ohiocas/events/8469908
- Invited Speaker, Mark Twain House, Hartford, CT, "*Pudd'nhead Wilson* and the One-drop Rule," April 11, 2018.
- Invited Speaker, Brazos Bookstore, Houston, TX, "Slavery Stories," April 3, 2018.
- Invited Speaker, Texas Christian University, Dallas, TX, "The Illustrated Slave," April 2, 2018.
- Invited Speaker in the AK Smith Visiting Scholar series, "Illustrating Slavery in the 1840s and 1850s:
  Before and After *Uncle Tom's Cabin* (1852)," Trinity College, CT, March 22, 2017.
- Invited Lecture, "Translating Across the Borders: Sui Sin Far and Other Interethnic Subjects," Stony Brook University, March 30, 2015.
- Invited Lecture, "Moses Roper and British Abolition," Tufts University, March 18, 2012.
- Invited Lecture, "The Future of Multi-Ethnic Literary Studies," Oberlin College, April 13, 2011.
- Plenary Speaker, "Writing an Alternative History: Toni Morrison's Fiction and the Renovation of the Past, Present, and Future," Humanities Institute, University of Connecticut, April 6, 2011.
- Keynote Speaker, National Library of Medicine's Exhibition, "The Literature of Prescription," UMass Medical School, Worcester, MA, September 10, 2010.

- UCLAN (University of Central Lancashire, UK) American Studies Endowed Lecture, "Moses Roper and British Abolition," April 18, 2009.
- Schick Lectureship (Invited, Endowed Lecture), "Passing: The Strange History of a Word," Indiana State University, March 12, 2008.

CONFERENCE PAPERS (2001-Present)

- "Revolutionary Multilingualism: Moving Beyond Translation as Trope," MLA (Modern Language Association) Conference, Washington, DC (January 2022).
- "Producing the Meaning of the Geography of Enslavement in the Past and Present," MLA (Modern Language Association) Conference, Washington, DC (January 2022).
- "Revising Medical Histories in Toni Morrison's *Home*," ALA (American Literature Association) Conference, Boston, MA, July 2021.
- "When Black Lives Really Do Matter: Repairing and Rewriting Women's Bodies through African-Diasporic Healing Rituals in Toni Morrison's Fiction," MELUS (Multi-Ethnic Literature of the United States Conference, Virtual Platform, April 10, 2021.
- "Henry Box Brown in Contemporary Visual Art and the Limits of Black Optimism," NEMLA (NEMLA) Conference, Virtual Platform, March 13, 2021.
- "Visual Insubordination Within Early African American Portraiture and Illustrated Books," SEA (Society of Early Americanists) Conference, Virtual Platform, March 4, 2021.
- "The Fugitive Gazes Back: The Visual Performance Work of William and Ellen Craft, Frederick Douglass, and Sojourner Truth," (In)Visibilizing the Subaltern International Conference, Montpellier, France, June 11-12, 2020 (Cancelled due to Covid-19)
- "In the Wake of Henry Box Brown: Memorializing Slavery," MELUS Conference, April 5, 2020, New Orleans (Cancelled due to Covid-19).
- "What's New in Journal and Book Publishing: Advice from Editors," MELUS Conference, April 5, 2019, New Orleans. Panel Chair and Speaker. (Cancelled due to Covid-19).
- "A More Dialogic History: Toni Morrison's *Beloved* and *A Mercy*," NEMLA (Northeast MLA) Conference, Boston, MA, March 5-7, 2020. Panel Chair and Speaker.
- "Serial Passing in the 20th and 21st Century: Undermining 'True Identity?'" NEMLA (Northeast MLA) Conference, Boston, MA, March 5-7, 2020.
- "Embodied Empathy: Visual Reading and the Nineteenth-Century Antislavery Movement," MLA Conference, Seattle, January 2020.
- "Cora in the Museum: Intersectional Oppression and the Politics of Resistant Solidarity in Colson Whitehead's *Underground Railroad*," (Conference Chair and Presenter), MLA Conference, Seattle, January 2020.
- "A Mighty Power: Print, Photography, and the Nineteenth-Century African American Subject," 2019 Black New England Conference, Southern New Hampshire University, Manchester, NH, October 26, 2019.
- "A Lost Voice of Fugitivity: Henry Box Brown's Plays of Auto-Impersonation on the British Stage," MLA International Conference, Lisbon, July 25, 2019.
- "Teaching Chesnutt's Non-Racial Passing Short Fiction: The Value of Not Judging a Book by Its Cover," American Literature Association Conference, Boston, May 25, 2019.
- "Reclaiming Visuality: The Politics of Looking Back in Colson Whitehead's *The Underground Railroad*," MELUS Conference, Cincinnati, Ohio, March 23, 2018. (Paper presentation, panel organizer, and panel chair).
- "Transplanting and Transforming Slavery: Spectacle, Visuality, and Power in Cinematic Neo-Slave Narratives," MELUS Conference, Las Vegas, May 2018.
- "Roundtable: Publishing Your Article in *MELUS*, MELUS Conference, Las Vegas, May 2018.
- "Why Passing is Not Passé," MLA Conference, New York, January 8, 2018.

- "A Tale for the Time Being and the Trope of Translation: Ruth Ozeki's Hacking of *The Woman Warrior*," SSAWW International Conference, Bordeaux, France, July 7, 2017.
- "Border Crossings in Nella Larsen's Writings" (panel chair), SSAWW International Conference, Bordeaux, France, July 7, 2017.
- "Reading between the Lines: Resistance within the Visual Rhetoric of African American Antislavery Works," American Literature Association Conference, Boston, MA, May 27, 2017.
- "Crossing Borders in Sui Sin Far's Writing: Negotiating Race, Ethnicity, and Migration," American Literature Association Conference, Boston, MA, May 2017.
- "Finding Safe Harbor: US Fugitive Slaves, Sea Travel, and Performative Resistance," MELUS Conference, April 29, 2017, Boston, MA.
- "Between Word and Image: Nineteenth-Century Antislavery Political Cartoons," American Literature Association Conference, San Francisco, CA, May 27, 2016.
- "A Borderland Mode of Performance Work: Multivalent Forms of Passing in the Past and Present," NEMLA Conference, Hartford, CT, March 16, 2016.
- "Re-Visioning Race: Transformations of the Historiography of Passing in *Incognegro*," MELUS Conference, Charleston SC, March 5, 2016.
- "Preparing for the Job Market: A Professionalism Workshop for Graduate Students," MELUS Conference, Charleston, SC, March 4, 2016.
- "A Tale for the Time Being: Ruth Ozeki's Homage to and Revision of *The Woman Warrior*," Modern Language Association Conference, Austin, Texas, January 2016.
- "Telling the Graphic Story of Slavery in US Antebellum Caricature Cartoons," Modern Language Association Conference, Austin, Texas, January 2016.
- "Sui Sin Far and Other Interethnic/Interstitial Subjects," ALA Conference, Boston, MA, May 2015.
- "Between Words and Pictures: Telling the Graphic Story of US Slavery in Abolitionist Political Cartoons," MELUS Conference, Athens, GA April 2015.
- "The Persistence of Cinematic Representation of Slavery and Slave Torture in Contemporary U.S. Film," Modern Language Conference, Vancouver, January 2015.
- "Will the 'Real' Henry Box Brown Please Stand Up?" American Literature Association Conference, Washington, DC, May 2014.
- "Roundtable on Publishing in Scholarly Journals: Advice from Editors," American Literature Association Conference, Washington, DC, May 2014.
- "Editor's Roundtable on Publishing" (Chair and Speaker), MELUS Conference, Oklahoma City, March 2014.
- "Learned Society Journals: Challenges and Opportunities in the Twenty-First Century," Modern Language Association Conference, Chicago, January 2014.
- "New Directions in American Multiethnic Feminist, Gender, and Sexuality Theories and Criticism" (Respondent), Modern Language Association Conference, Chicago, January 2014.
- "Why Near-White Women Can't Pass: An Intersectional Analysis of Gender Roles in Charles Chesnutt's Fiction," American Literature Association Conference, Boston, May 2013.
- "How to get your Articles and Books on Multi-Ethnic Literature Published," MELUS 2013 Conference (Pittsburgh PA, March 2013).
- "Capitalism, Patriarchy, Racial Passing, and the 'Self-Made' Man in Charles Chesnutt's Fiction: An Intersectional Analysis of Gender Roles in *The House Behind the Cedars* and *Mandy Oxendine*," American Literature Association Conference, San Francisco, May 2012.
- "Sui Sin Far and the Southwest Museum: Or, on the Ephemeral Nature of the Multi-Ethnic Archive." MELUS 2012 Conference, San Jose, CA April 18, 2012.
- "Re-Visioning Race: Transformations of the Passing Narrative in Mat Johnson and Warren Pleece's Graphic Novel *Incognegro*," ALA (American Literature Association) Conference, Boston, May 2011.
- "The Future American: Racial and Global Crossing in Late Nineteenth-Century Passing

Narratives," MELUS Conference, Boca Raton, April 2011.

- "Is There a Crisis in Black Research Publishing?" MLA Roundtable Participant, Los Angeles, Jan. 2011.
- "Moses Roper's Engagement with the Visual and Verbal Iconography of Transatlantic Abolition," MESEA (Multi-Ethnic Studies of Europe and America) Conference, Pécs, Hungary, June 2010.
- "'Bottom Rail on Top Dis Time, Massa': 'Mars Jeems's Nightmare,' White Passing Tales, and the Politics of Racial (In)Justice," American Literature Association Conference, San Francisco, May 2010.
- "Are We Really 'Post Racial'? Passing in a 'Post Racial' Era," NCBS (National Council of Black Studies) Conference, New Orleans, March 2010.
- "Does the English Department Have a Jewish Problem?" MLA Roundtable Participant, Philadelphia, Dec. 2009.
- "Journal Ranking, Reviewing, and Promotion in the Age of New Media," MLA Roundtable Participant, Philadelphia, Dec. 2009.
- "Literary Challenges to the 'One-Drop' Rule: Hannah Crafts's *The Bondswoman's Narrative* as a Passing Narrative," Society of American Women Writers (SSAWW) Conference, Philadelphia, Sept. 2009.
- "Skinship: Racial and Sexual Politics On/Along the 'Color Line," American Literature Association Conference, Boston, May 2009.
- "Passing In and Out of Whiteness: Juridical, Scientific, and Literary Challenges to the One-Drop Rule, 1830-1865," MELUS Conference, Spokane, April 2009.
- "Moses Roper and British Abolition," Liberating Sojourn 2 Conference: Transatlantic Abolitionists 1845-1860, Liverpool, UK, April 2009.
- Council of Editors' of Learned Journals' Roundtable, "What is a Scholarly Journal? Identity Issues in Our Digital Age," MLA Conference, San Francisco, Dec. 2008.
- "Black Like Malcolm: Grace Halsell's Rewriting of *Black Like Me*," American Literature Association Conference, San Francisco, May 2008.
- "Passing Out of Literary History: Reba Lee's *I Passed for White* and the Limits of Generic Conventions," American Literature Conference, Boston, April 2007.
- "Concealing to Reveal: Autobiographies of Racial Passers," American Literature Symposium on Biography, Puerto Vaharta, Mexico, Dec. 2006.
- "Getting Your Articles on American Women Writers Accepted For Publication," Society of American Women Writer's Conference, Philadelphia, November 2006.
- "Passing: Racial Ethos and The Evolution of a Multivalent Term," 2006 Conference, Boca Raton, April 2006.
- "Passing: The Strange Historical and Cultural Meaning of a Word," American Literature Association Conference, Boston, May 2005.
- "'Yes, I shall try to please McClurg with my book': Sui Sin Far's Letters to Her Publishers and Literary Representations of the Asian American Female Subject," American Literature Association Conference, San Francisco, May 2004.
- "Keywords in Nineteenth-Century Literature: Passing," Modern Language Association Conference, San Diego, Dec. 2003.
- "C.P. Gilman and Medicine: Beyond 'The Yellow Wall-Paper,'" Modern Language Association Conference, San Diego, Dec. 2003.
- "Sui Sin Far's Letters to Her Publishers: Editors, Publishing, and the Asian American Subject at the Turn of the Century," SSAWW (Society for the Study of American Women Writers) National Conference, Fort Knox, TX, Sept. 2003.
- "Malinche's Legacy: Cultural Translation and Betrayal in Chicano/a Literature," International American Studies Association First World Congress, Leiden, the Netherlands, May 2003.

- "The Legacy of Cortés: The Politics and Poetics of Voice in Chicano/a Literature," MESEA (Multi-Ethnic Studies of Europe and the Americas) Conference, Padua, Italy, June 2002.
- "Palimpsestic Translation in Leslie Marmon Silko's *Ceremony* and *Almanac of the Dead*," American Literature Association Conference, Boston, June 2002.
- "When the Instructor Becomes the Text: What Should We Do?" MELUS Conference, April 2002.
- "Teaching Multiethnic Literature Through the Perspective of Multilingualism," MLA (Modern Language Association) Conference, Dec. 2001.
- "Psychoanalysis and Its Discontents: A Theory of Desire in African American Women's Fiction," American Literature Association Conference, June 2001.
- "Theorizing Desire: African American Women's Fiction and the Critique of Patriarchal Sexuality," SSAWW (Society for the Study of American Women Writers) National Conference, Feb. 2001.

COURSES TAUGHT

Graduate Seminars:

- Medical Humanities: Race, Gender, and the Body (spring 2023)
- Historical Graphic Novel
- Slavery in the Literary and Visual Imagination of the United States and England
- Visual Rhetoric and Social Change
- Contemporary African American Fiction
- American Literature Survey, 1865-1914
- Racial Passing, Masquerade, and Transformation in American Literature, Film, and Culture
- Transnational American Ethnicities in Literature and Film
- Multiculturalism and Multilingualism in Ethnic American Literature
- Intertextuality and Revision in Contemporary African American Fiction
- African American Literature and Theory
- Multi-Ethnic American Women's Fiction, 1850-1945
- Contemporary African American Women's Fiction
- Slavery and the Literary Imagination

Undergraduate Courses:

- Literature and Medicine: Race, Gender, and Healing (fall 2022)
- Contemporary African American Literature and Film
- Slavery in US Literature, Culture, and Film
- Racial Masquerade and Transformation in African American Literature, Film, History, and Law
- Graphic Novel
- Twentieth and Twenty-First Century African American Literature
- Introduction to African American Literature
- Black American Writers II
- Black American Writers I
- The Films of Spike Lee and the Novels of Toni Morrison
- Feminist Theory (Women's Studies Course Offering)
- Body Talk: Representations of the Body in American Literature, Film, and Culture
- Racial Crossings
- Representations of the Holocaust in Literature, Film, and Culture

- Topics in Cultural Studies: Language and Ethnic American Identity
- Seminar: Toni Morrison's Fiction
- Women's Literature
- Introduction to Women's Literature
- African American Literature
- Questions in Ethnicity
- Post-Civil War American Literature
- Pre-Civil War American Literature
- Realism and Naturalism
- American Women's Writing, 1850-1930
- Ethnic Literatures of the United States
- Introduction to Ethnic Literature of the United States
- Freshmen Honors Colloquium: Enslavement and Redemption
- Critical Reading and Writing: Fiction
- Critical Reading and Writing: Drama
- The Process of Writing
- Advanced Expository Writing

GRADUATE PROGRAM ACTIVITY

- Director: Two Ph.D thesis (in progress), University of Connecticut, 2014-Present
- Director: Two Ph.D thesis, University of Connecticut (Completed 2015, December 2019)
- Associate Director: Four Ph.D. theses, University of Connecticut (two completed 2016, two in progress).
- Specialist Exam Committee Member, 2007-2015, University of Connecticut.
- Director: Three Ph.D. theses (completed in April 2001, April 2002, April 2006), Kent State University
- Co-Director: One Ph.D. thesis (completed in 1997), Kent State University
- Director: One MA. thesis (completed in 1996), Kent State University
- Reader: Eight Ph.D. theses; two MA. theses, Kent State University

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PROFESSIONAL SERVICE (selected list)

- Advisory Board Member, *PMLA*, 2021-2024.
- Editorial Board Member, *College Literature*, June 1, 2017-Present.
- Editorial Board Member, *MELUS: Multi-Ethnic Literature of the United* States, 2015-Present.
- Manuscript Reader (books), Clemson State University Press, Cambridge University Press, University of Alabama Press, SUNY Press, Rutgers UP, University of Georgia Press, McGill University Press, University Press of Mississippi, University of Hawaii Press, University of Illinois Press, Brill Press, University of Toronto Press.
- Secretary, Charles Chesnutt Society, 2018-Present.
- Board Member, *Legacies of 19th-Century U.S. Women Writers* (series of scholarly texts published by the University of Nebraska Press), 2001-2016.
- Member, MLA Executive Committee, Division on Ethnic Studies in Language and Literature, Jan. 2003-Dec. 2007
- Modern Language Association Delegate, Great Lakes Region, 1998-2000
- Essay Reader, *Literature and Medicine*, *Prose Studies, LIT*, *PMLA, MELUS*, *Legacy, A/B*, *American Literary Realism*, *Life Writing, Journal of Nineteenth-Century History, College Literature, Journal of American Studies.*

UNIVERSITY AND DEPARTMENTAL SERVICE (selected list):

- Organizer and Leader, Medical Humanities and Health Disparities Interdisciplinary Research Group (2021-2022).
- Member, College of Language and Arts (CLAS) Research Advisory Committee
- Member, Office of Vice Provost for Research's Internal Competitions Advisory Board (ICAB); co-chair, discipline-specific review groups for Research Excellence Program (REP); 2020-present.
- Drafted bylaws for Africana Studies Institute, fall 2018.
- Committee Chair, Search for the Director of Africana Studies (2018).
- Search Committee Member, joint hire in History and Africana Studies (focus: Transatlantic Slavery) 2015-2016.
- Member, Undergraduate Curriculum Committee, English Department, 2015-2018
- Member, Committee on Promotion to Full Professor, English Department, fall 2015-Spring 2016.
- Moderator, CLAS Research Forum, April 2014.
- "Tenure and Timing," Junior Faculty Forum Speaker, April 2014.
- Member, Search Committee for African American Studies-Sociology Joint hire, 2012-2013.
- Member, Search Committee for the Directorship of the African American Studies Institute, College of Language and Sciences, University of Connecticut, 2010-2012.
- Chair, Speakers, Symposia, and Faculty Development Committee, English Department, University of Connecticut, 2010-2012, 2013-2014, 2015-2018.
- Member, Tenure and Review Committee, English Department, University of Connecticut, 2009-2010 and 2010-2011, 2018-2019.
- Member, Speakers, Symposia, and Faculty Development Committee, English Department, University of Connecticut, 2009-2010.
- Member, Graduate MA and PhD Admissions Committee, English Department, University of Connecticut, 2007-2008, 2009-2010, 2010-2011, 2014-present.
- Board Member, Institute for Africana Studies, University of Connecticut, 2006-present.
- Member, Graduate Executive Committee, University of Connecticut, 2007-2008, 2011-2012, 2016-2018.
- Member, Search Committee in African American Literature, English Department, University of Connecticut, 2007-2008.
- Member, Search Committee in Post-Colonial Theory, Kent State University, 2005-2006.
- Member, Women's Studies Major Curriculum Committee, Kent State University, 2005-2006.
- Member, Chair Search Committee (Internal), English Department, Kent State University, 2003-2004
- Chair, Graduate Studies Committee, Kent State University, 2002-2006.
- Member, English Department Faculty Advisory Council, Kent State University, 2003-2006.
- Job Placement Officer for Graduate Students, English Department, Kent State University, 2002-2004.
- Chair, English Department Search Committee in African American Literature, Kent State University, 2002-2003.
- Member, Review and Search Committee, Vice Provost for Diversity, Kent State University, 2000-2002.
- Moderator, "Enhancing the Racial and Ethnic Climate on Kent State's Eight Campuses," A Featured Event in the Week of Campus Dialogue on Race, Kent State University, Oct. 16, 2000.
- Co-Chair, Committee on Minority Faculty Recruitment and Retention, Diversity Advisory Council, Kent State University, 1999.
- Member, Diversity Advisory Council, Kent State University, 1998-2002.
- Associate Faculty Member, Interdisciplinary Seminar on "Race in America," Kent State University, 1997-1998.

PRIMARY LEADERSHIP AND ADMINISTRATIVE ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Co-Chair and Member, ICAB (Internal Competitions Advisory Review Board), Office of Vice Provost for Research, UCONN (2020-Present): Co-chair the Committee Evaluating the REP (Research Excellence Program) Awards; Member of Ad-Hoc Committees Evaluating External Grants for Limited Submission Programs.

Interim Director of the Institute for Africana Studies, the University of Connecticut (1.5 years; Fall 2011 to Spring 2012). Oversaw and disbursed budget ($100,000); oversaw administrative assistant, one graduate TA, and two undergraduate assistants; revised classes for the undergraduate Africana Studies major; served as advisor to Africana Studies majors or minors (15); planned course rotations; was the liaison with other departments (History, English, Geography, Psychology, Sociology, Art and Art History) regarding curriculum planning and faculty responsibilities for twelve faculty with joint appointments and cross-listed courses; ran monthly faculty meetings; instituted an affiliate status and recruited 35 faculty as affiliates; ran bi-monthly meetings with affiliated and jointly appointed faculty; brought to campus four external speakers per semester, planning all details of each event; publicized the major to undergraduates through specific, targeted recruitment events; was the liaison with upper administration regarding budget, personnel, and goals of Africana Studies Institute.

Member, Graduate Executive Committee, University of Connecticut, 2007-2008, 2011-2012, 2016-2018, 2021-2022: Primary responsibilities include recruitment of underrepresented students; involvement in job placement workshops and interviews; involvement in curriculum revision; involvement in graduate course scheduling; involvement in graduate admissions; involvement in budget and resource planning.

Member, Undergraduate Studies Courses and Curriculum Committee, University of Connecticut, 2015-2018: Primary responsibilities include revision of English Department's African American literature classes (in collaboration with other faculty teaching these classes); substantive involvement in revision of undergraduate major in English; involvement in recruitment and retention of English majors; substantive review of online courses and course proposals in the English Department; vetting of new course proposals; advising of undergraduate majors.

Editor-in-Chief, *MELUS*, 2006-2014: Oversaw budget ($180,000); responsible for planning all regular and special issues; decreased time-to-decision from 12 weeks to 8 weeks via use of an electronic submission system; won major award for journal from CELJ (Council of Editors of Learned Journal) for best journal in North American Literature, 2010; oversaw Associate Editor, Assistant Editor, and other personnel; revised and updated journal's design; oversaw editorial board; moved the journal from being self-published to being published by Oxford University Press; negotiated new contract for journal with Oxford University Press and oversaw transition.

Director of Graduate Studies, Kent State University, 2002-2006. Instituted and oversaw graduate faculty course rotation; oversaw distribution of resources to four separate programs within the department (MFA, TESOL, MA for Teachers, and Literature MA and PhD); oversaw 40 graduate TA's academic progress; revised graduate curriculum to bring new classes in theory and gender into it; conducted annual graduate faculty review (of 50 faculty); oversaw Graduate Studies Budget ($200,000); created and led a series of job placement workshops for graduate students; was the liaison with other departments (History, Pan-African Studies) regarding course planning and hires; was the liaison with senior administrators regarding budget, graduate curriculum, number of TAs, and financial resources; oversaw admissions; ran monthly graduate executive committee meetings and bi-monthly meetings with graduate faculty.