

Michael A. Bryson, PhD

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CURRENT ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTSRoosevelt University, College of Arts & Sciences, Chicago IL

Professor and Director of Sustainability Studies, 2015-present

Chair of the Department of Sociology, Sustainability, & Community Development, 2017-present

- Co-founder of the Sustainability Studies undergraduate program, 2010
- Founder and Director of the Roosevelt Urban Sustainability Lab, 2015-present

Field Museum of Natural History, Chicago IL

Department of Science and Education

Research Associate, 2013-present

PRIOR ACADEMIC POSITIONSRoosevelt University, College of Professional Studies, Chicago IL

Department of Liberal and Professional Studies

Professor of Humanities, 2015

Associate Professor of Humanities, 2001-2014

Assistant Professor of Humanities, 1996-2000

Virginia Polytechnic Institute & State University, Blacksburg VA

Department of English

Instructor of English, 1994-1996

EDUCATION

Ph.D., English (1995) -- State University of New York at Stony Brook

B.A., Biology and English (1990) -- Illinois Wesleyan University

REFEREED PUBLICATIONS

(scholarly articles, essays, book chapters, monographs)

"Cultivating the Wild on Chicago's South Side: Stories of People and Nature at Eden Place Nature Center." Co-written with Michael Howard. *Wildness: Relations of People and Place*, eds. Gavin Van Horn and John Hausdoerffer. Chicago: Univ. of Chicago Press, 2017. 166-176.

- "Canoeing through History: Wild Encounters on Bubbly Creek." *City Creatures*, eds. David Aftandilian and Gavin Van Horn. Chicago: Univ. of Chicago Press, 2015. 264-271.
- "Schaumburg's Sustainable Future: Student Research, Social Media, and the 'Edge City' Suburb." *Journal of Environmental Studies and Science* (12 Dec 2014). Published online (DOI 10.1007/s13412-014-0200-1). Special issue: "Integrating and Interdisciplinary Approaches to Sustainable Cities and Regions," edited by Laurie Kaye Nijaki and Lisa Pettibone.
- Review of *The Cambridge Introduction to Literature and the Environment*, by Timothy Clark. *Modern Philology* 112.2 (November 2014): E148-151.
- "Infamous Past, Invisible Present: Searching for Bubbly Creek in the 21st Century." Co-written with Carl Zimring. *IA — The Journal of the Society for Industrial Archeology* 39.1 and 2 (2013): 79-91. Theme Issue: Industrial Waste.
- "Teaching Sustainability 101: How Do We Structure an Introductory Course?" Co-written with Thomas Schrand (lead author), Lisa Benton-Short, Lindy Biggs, and Geoffrey Habron. *Sustainability: The Journal of Record* 6.4 (August 2013): 207-210.
- "Unearthing Urban Nature: Loren Eiseley's Explorations of City and Suburb." In *Artifacts and Illuminations: Critical Essays on Loren Eiseley*, eds. Tom Lynch and Susan Maher. Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 2012. 77-98.
- "Empty Lots and Secret Places: Leonard Dubkin's Exploration of Urban Nature in Chicago." *Interdisciplinary Studies of Literature and Environment* 18.1 (Winter 2011): 47-66.
- "Creating the Sustainable City: Developing an Interdisciplinary Introduction to Urban Environmental Studies for a General Education Curriculum." Co-written with Carl Zimring. *Metropolitan Universities Journal* 20.2 (July 2010): 105-116. Special issue: "The Green Revolution of Metropolitan Universities," edited by Roger Munger.
- "Nature, Narrative, and the Scientist-Writer: Rachel Carson's and Loren Eiseley's Critique of Science." *Technical Communication Quarterly* 12.4 (Fall 2003): 369-387.
- Review of *So Great a Vision: The Conservation Writings of George Perkins Marsh*, ed. by Stephen Trombulak. *Interdisciplinary Studies of Literature and Environment* 10.2 (2003): 260-1.
- Visions of the Land: Literature, Science, and the American Environment from the Era of Exploration to the Age of Ecology*. Charlottesville, VA: University of Virginia Press, 2002. The 9th book in the series, *Under the Sign of Nature: Explorations in Ecocriticism*.
- Critical essays, ranging in length from 50-1,000 words, on "Biology, Zoology, and Literature," "Francis Crick," "Empiricism," "Genetics," "Charlotte Perkins Gilman," "James Gleick," "Alexander von Humboldt," "Hypothesis," "Ornithology," "Positivism," "Progress," "Science Reporting," "Scientific Method," "Scientism," and "Henry David Thoreau," for *An Encyclopedia of Literature and Science*, ed. Pamela Gossin. Westport, CN: Greenwood Press, 2002.
- "It's Worth the Risk: Science and Autobiography in Sandra Steingraber's *Living Downstream*." *Women's Studies Quarterly* XXIX: 1.2 (Spring/Summer 2001): 170-182.
- "Popular Science on the Road: Adventures in Island Biogeography." In *Travel Culture: Essays on What Makes Us Go*, ed. Carol Traynor Williams. Westport, CN: Praeger, 1998. 59-71.
- Review of *The Song of the Dodo: Island Biogeography in an Age of Extinctions*, by David Quammen. *Interdisciplinary Studies of Literature and Environment* 4.1 (1998): 139.
- "Controlling the Land: John Wesley Powell and the Scientific Management of the American West." In *Science, Values, and the American West*, ed. Stephen Tchudi. Halcyon Series on the American West, Vol. 19. Reno: University of Nevada Press, 1997. 3-23.

"Antarctic Interfaces: Science, Human Subjectivity, and the Case of Richard Byrd." *Science as Culture* 5.3 (1996): 431-458.

Review of *Toward a Dialogue of Understandings: Loren Eiseley and the Critique of Science*, by Mary Ellen Pitts. *Public Understanding of Science* 5.4 (1996).

SCHOLARLY WORKS in PROGRESS

"Water Stories: Narrative, Urban Sustainability, and the Fluid Future of the Otakaro-Avon River in Christchurch, New Zealand" (scholarly article).

Mapping the Urban Wilderness: An Ecological and Literary Topography of Chicago (monograph).

"Reading the Book of Nature: May Theilgaard Watts and the Art of (Teaching) Ecology." Research project supported by RU faculty research leave, Spring 2014 (scholarly article).

NON-REFEREED PUBLICATIONS

"Commonplace Nature, Close at Hand: Thinking about Leonard Dubkin as Spring Emerges." *City Creatures*. Center for Humans and Nature, 19 May 2014. Web.

<http://www.humansandnature.org/commonplace-nature-close-hand-thinking-leonard-dubkin-spring-emerges>

"Wildlife in Chicago and Fracking in Southern Illinois: Ecological and Human Connections." *City Creatures*. Center for Humans and Nature, 2 Dec 2013. Web.

<http://www.humansandnature.org/wildlife-chicago-fracking-southern-illinois-ecological-human-connections>

"To Apprehend the Wild, Don't Forget the Kids." *City Creatures*. Center for Humans and Nature, 18 March 2013. Web. <http://www.humansandnature.org/apprehend-wild-forget-kids>

"Canoes, Cities, and the Creatures of Bubbly Creek." *City Creatures*. Center for Humans and Nature, 2 Aug 2012. Web. <http://www.humansandnature.org/canoes-cities-creatures-bubbly-creek>

Introduction to *While Wandering: Chicago*, by Ryan Hodgson-Rigsbee. Chicago: Urban Nature Media, 2011. (book of photography)

"Sustaining Sustainability." *Roosevelt Review* (Fall 2010): 32-38.

"Rediscover the Chicago River." Photography by Ryan Hodgson-Rigsbee. *Mindful Metropolis* (May 2010): 29-31. (cover story)

"The Sustainable City: Developing an Interdisciplinary, Team-taught, Hybrid Course." *Proceedings of the 2009 Roosevelt University Mini-Conference on Teaching* 6 (Spring 2009). Co-written with Carl Zimring.

"RU collaborating?: From Team-Teaching to Student Group Management in an Online Course." Co-written with Amanda Putnam. *Proceedings of the 2006 Roosevelt University Mini-Conference on Teaching* 3 (Spring 2006): 15-18.

"On Beyond Google: Improving the Quality of Student Research." *Proceedings of the 2006 Roosevelt University Mini-Conference on Teaching* 3 (Spring 2006): 9-11. Co-written with Mary Beth Riedner, et al.

Review of *What the Best College Teachers Do*, by Ken Bain. *Roosevelt University's Center for Teaching and Learning Newsletter* (Spring 2006).

EDITING and JOURNALISM

Editor and writer of essays on sustainability, science, arts and humanities, education, politics, the urban environment, and other issues for two environmental blogs:

- **Sustainability Studies at Roosevelt University** (contributor since 2010, editor since 2012)
<http://rusustain.wordpress.com/>
- **Schaumburg's Sustainable Future** (student/faculty website launched Earth Day 2011)
<http://futureofschaumburg.wordpress.com/>

Monthly op-ed newspaper column on local politics, culture, and environmental issues for *The Herald-News*, Joliet, Illinois (June 2006 to September 2013)

SELECTED LECTURES and PRESENTATIONS

"River Stories: Representing (and Restoring) the Chicago River through Story, Science, and Service." Association for the Study of Literature and Environment, Wayne State University, Detroit MI, 20-24 June 2017.

Co-presenter with Maria Cancilla and Rebecca Quesnell. "Transformative Sustainability: STARS, SENCER, and the Future of the University." SENCER 2016 Institute, Roosevelt University, Chicago IL, 31 July 2016.

"Out in the City, Down on the Farm: Service Learning and Sustainability at Roosevelt University." Integrated Network for Social Sustainability Conference, Institute of Cultural Affairs, Chicago IL, 9 June 2016.

"Schaumburg's Sustainable Future: A Student-Driven Social Media Project." Roosevelt University Mini-Conference on Teaching, Chicago IL, 10 Apr 2015.

Invited panelist for public symposium on sustainability and spatial justice ("Is It Just Space?"). Institute of Cultural Affairs, Chicago IL 7 Oct 2014. Co-sponsored by the Center for Humans and Nature and the Chicagoland Sustainability Leaders Network.

Participant/Author, "Relative Wild" Writer's Workshop with Robert Michael Pyle, Center for Humans and Nature, Crested Butte CO, 21-23 Sept 2014.

"Kids, Urban Nature, and Environmental Education." Urban Wild panel at the 25th Headwaters Conference, Western Colorado State University, Gunnison CO, 20 Sept 2014.

"Sustainability Studies, Community Development, and Social Justice: Service Learning at an Urban Farm." Association for Environmental Studies and Sciences, Pace University, New York NY, 14 June 2014.

"Reading the Book of Nature: May Theilgaard Watts' Art of Ecology." Science and Education interchange Lecture Series, Field Museum of Natural History, Chicago IL, 5 June 2014.

Co-presenter with Aaron Shoults-Wilson. "Sustainability at Roosevelt University: Facilities, Academics, Research, Partnerships." Research and Education towards Sustainability Symposium, Institute for Environmental Sustainability, Loyola University, Chicago IL, 4 June 2014.

"Sustainability and the Future of Cities: Connecting Curriculum to Community." Guest lecture for Grand Prairie Project Faculty Sustainability Retreat, Joliet Junior College, Joliet IL, 1 June 2014.

"Sustainability Studies at RU: Connecting Campus and Community through Education and Research." GreenTown 2014 Conference, University of Illinois at Chicago, 28 May 2014.

- “Science, Sustainability, Service Learning, and Social Justice: Experiments and Opportunities in Field- and Community-Based Education.” Plenary address at SCI-Midwest Symposium (SENCER) on Teaching College Science and Math through Food, Health, and Sustainability Themes, Roosevelt University, Schaumburg IL, 8 March 2014.
- "Water and the Postnatural City: Reversals, Invasions, and Prospects for Sustainability." Society for Literature, Science, and the Arts annual conference, University of Notre Dame, South Bend IN, 3 October 2013.
- "Sustainability in the Suburbs: From Oak Park to Schaumburg to Joliet." Invited Lecture for Earth Month, Joliet Junior College, Joliet IL, 25 April 2013.
- "Urban Nature in (and around) Joliet: Sensing Place and Finding the Wild." Invited Lecture for Family Environmental Literacy Night, University of St. Francis, Joliet IL, 15 April 2013.
- "Ten Reasons To Love the Chicago River." Keynote address at the Chicago River Student Congress, Marie Curie High School, Chicago, IL, 23 February 2013.
- Co-presenter with RU undergrads Ken Schmidt and Ron Taylor. "Sustainability and the Chicago River: from Urbanization to Pollution to Restoration." Workshop presentation at the Chicago River Student Congress, Marie Curie High School, Chicago, IL, 23 February 2013.
- "Paddling the Chicago River: A Good Way To Think about Science, Art, Ethics, and the Sustainability of Cities." Winter Symposium, Augustana College, Rock Island, IL, 23 January 2013.
- Co-presenter with RU undergrads Conor Swenson and Katrina Wiecek. "Mapping Sustainability Assets in Chicago's Neighborhoods: Environmental Education and Community-based Research." Chicago Wilderness Congress, UIC, 15 November 2012.
- Co-presenter with Lindy Biggs, Lisa Benton-Short, Geoffrey Habron, and Tom Schrand. "Teaching Sustainability 101: How Do We Structure an Introductory Course?" Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education, Los Angeles, CA, 15 October 2012.
- "The City as Ecosystem: The Science and Poetry of Loren Eiseley's Urban Landscapes." Society for Literature, Science, and the Arts, Milwaukee, WI, 27 September 2012.
- "Exploring the Chicago River: Ethics, Sustainability, and a Sense of Place." Association of Environmental Studies and Science, Santa Clara University, Santa Clara, CA, 23 June 2012.
- "Creating a Sustainable Future: Sustainability and Interdisciplinary Education." Invited Lecture for Joliet Junior College Faculty Retreat on Sustainability, Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie, 3 June 2012.
- "How Much Does the Chicago River Cost?" Video lecture for *One Nation under Construction*, a multimedia production of the Chicago Architecture Foundation, Feb 2012.
- "Sustainability and Water." Guest Lecture for Prof. Fredric Miller's Introduction to Sustainability Seminar, Joliet Junior College, 14 November 2011.
- Co-presenter with Mary Beth Radeck and Jessie Crow Mermel. "Greyways vs. Greenways: Schaumburg's Sustainable Future." Lifeways and Greenways: Sustainability and Ethics Forum, Chicago Botanic Garden, 28 October 2011.
- "Teaching Sustainability: Multidisciplinary Perspectives and Approaches." Association for the Study of Literature and Environment, Indiana University, 25 June 2011.

- "Sustainability and Interdisciplinary Learning: Environmental Education in the Metropolitan Environment." Invited Faculty Lecture for Sustainability Seminar Group, Indiana State University, Terre Haute, IN, 5 April 2011.
- Co-presenter with Carl Zimring. "Sustainability Studies at Roosevelt University: Re-envisioning Education in the Urban Environment." Wild Things 2011 Conference on Chicago Wilderness, University of Illinois Chicago, 5 March 2011.
- "The Chicago River: Biodiversity, Urban Ecology, and the Sustainability of Water Resources." Guest Lecture for Prof. Norb Cordeiro's Environmental Biology class, Roosevelt University, 8 Nov 2010.
- "That's Some Fish Story: What the Asian Carp Controversy Can Tell Us about Science, Sustainability, and the Future of the Great Lakes Watershed." Society for Literature, Science, and the Arts, Indianapolis, IN, October 2010.
- Co-presenter with Carl Zimring and Maris Cooke. "Field Trip Experiences in Online Courses: Strategies, Examples, Assignments." College of Professional Studies Online Teaching Forum, 9 Sept. 2010.
- "Sustainability Studies: Toward the Greening of a Metropolitan University." Association of Environmental Studies and Science, Lewis and Clark College, June 2010.
- "Sustainability Studies and the Greening of Roosevelt University." Presentation to the Roosevelt University Board of Trustees, Chicago, IL, March 2010.
- Co-presenter with Carl Zimring. "Creating the Sustainable City: Developing an Introduction to Interdisciplinary Urban Environmental Studies for a General Education Curriculum." Association of Environmental Studies and Science, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Oct. 2009.
- "Finding Nature in the Windy City: Leonard Dubkin's Explorations of Chicago." Association for the Study of Literature and Environment, University of Victoria, BC, June 2009.

MANUSCRIPT REVIEW

- Book manuscript reviewer for Routledge Press and University of Virginia Press.
- Journal manuscript reviewer for *PMLA*, *ISLE (Interdisciplinary Studies in Literature and Environment)*, *Environmental History*, *International Journal of Sustainability in Higher Education*, *Modern Philology*, *Nature and Culture*, *Journal of African-American Studies*.

SELECTED PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

- American Association of University Professors (since 1996)
- Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (since 2010)
- Association for the Study of Literature and Environment (since 1993)
- Association for Environmental Studies and Sciences (since 2009)
- Society of Literature, Science, and the Arts (since 1993)